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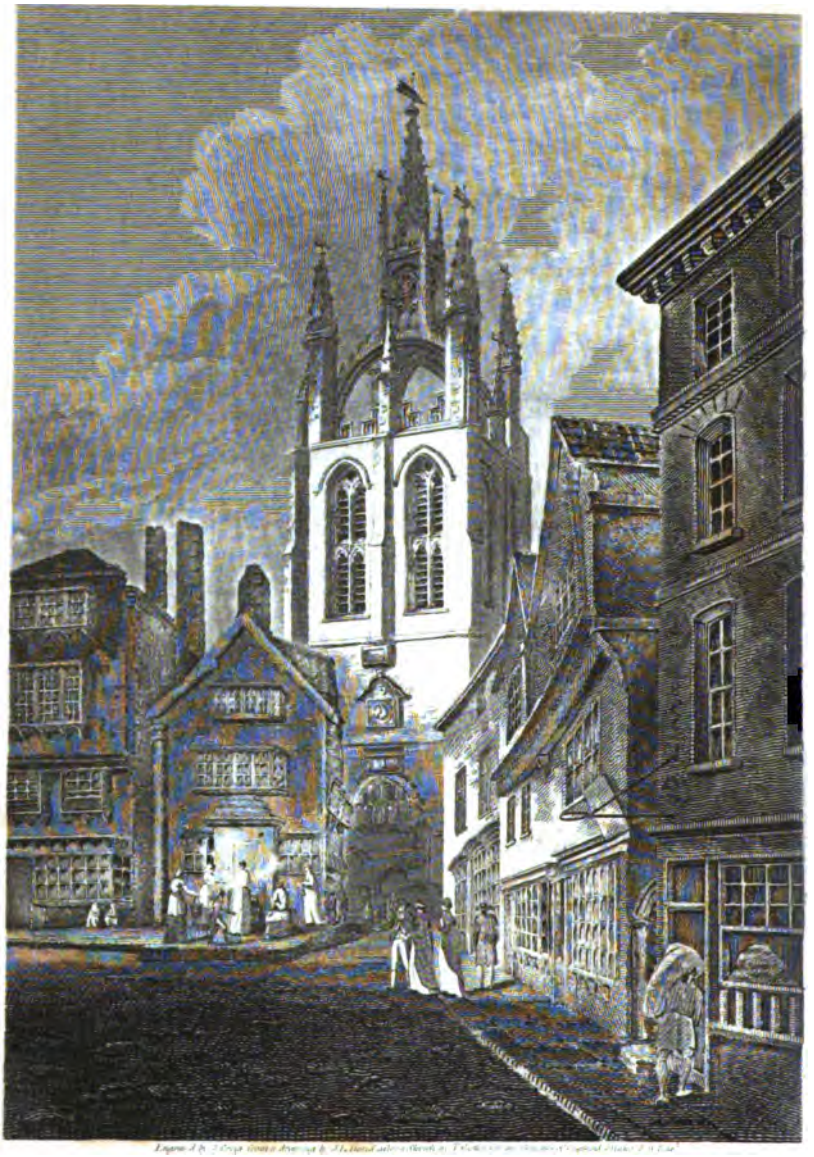

VIEW IN NEWCASTLE,
(with the Tower of St Nicholas Church)
Northumberland.

THE

Beauties

of

ENGLAND AND WALES;

OR

DELINEATIONS

TOPOGRAPHICAL, HISTORICAL and DESCRIPTIVE.

Vol. XII. Part I.

113

Nottingham Castle.

London Published by John Harris, St Paul's Church Yard

THE

BEAUTIES

OF

England and Wales:

OR,

ORIGINAL DELINEATIONS,

TOPOGRAPHICAL, HISTORICAL, AND DESCRIPTIVE,

OF

EACH COUNTY.

EMBELLISHED WITH ENGRAVINGS.

BY THE REV. J. HODGSON,

AND

MR. F. C. LAIRD.

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VOL. XII.—PART I.

Heavens! what a goodly prospect smiles around,
Of hills, and dales, and woods, and lawns, and spires,
And glittering towers, and gilded streams, till all
The stretching landscape into smoke decays—
Happy Britannia! THOMSON.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR J. HARRIS; LONGMAN AND CO.; J. WALKER; R. BALDWIN; SHERWOOD AND CO.; J. AND J. CUNDEE; B. AND R. CROSBY AND CO.; J. CUTHELL; J. AND J. RICHARDSON; CADELL AND DAVIES; C. AND J. RIVINGTON; AND G. COWIE AND CO.

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THE

BEAUTIES

OF

England and Wales.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE county of NORTHUMBERLAND was anciently included in that division of Britain, which, Camden conjectures, from its situation beyond the Tyne, was called *Ottadini*, or *Ottatini*. The Brigrantes lived on the southern side of the wall. The Ottadini were a part of the Meatæ, a people who, according to Dio, lived near the great wall which divideth the island in twain.* They were more to the south than the Gadeni, and their chief cities were Curia and Bremenium.† The regions which the Meatæ possess, says another author,‡ are the following; *Ottadinia*, in the east, then Gadenia, behind this Selgovia, then Novantia, and also behind these Damnia. The Gadeni, whose metropolis is Curia, live nearest to the wall. The *Ottadini* are nearer the sea; their head city is *Bremenium*, and their chief rivers the *Tueda*, the *Alauna*, and both the *Tynes*, which run within the wall.‖ The country of the *Ottadini*, perhaps, stretched along the whole length of the Roman province VALENTIA, from Tynemouth to the Firth of Forth; and the Gadeni seem to have been an inland people, adjoining the

* Ziphl. l. lxxvi. † Pto. Geo. ‡ Ric. Corin. l. i. c. 6. § 37.
‖ Ibid. § 38.

Ottadini on the west, from the wall in the high part of Northumberland to the wall in Scotland. The real situation of Curia has not been accurately ascertained. Bremenium was one of the twelve urbes stipendariæ in Britain, and its large ruins and chequered walls are still to be seen at Rochester, in Reedsdale.

Besides the numerous remains of camps and castles, scattered through all parts of Northumberland, the Romans had fourteen cities in it, and it was crossed by that celebrated barrier, which in Latin was called Vallum Barbaricum; by Greek authors, Διαλιμχισμα and Ξωμα; by the Britons, Gual Sever and Mur Sever; by the Scots, Scottinwaith; and by the English, the Pict's Wall and the Keep Wall.*

Though it is generally allowed that AGRICOLA in his second or third campaign built several of these cities, or stations, yet the argument in favour of the presumption is drawn from probable inferences, rather than conclusive evidence. The Benwell altar, which seems to mention Senicio,† who was consul with Palma, in A. D. 99, and twelve years after Agricola left Britain, is perhaps too much obliterated to prove that it belongs to that time; and it may savour too much of conjecture, to suppose the prefect Ælius Atticus, who has left his name on an altar at Lanchester,‡ about twelve miles from the wall, was the same as the prefect Aulus Atticus, who, being mounted on a young and fiery horse, was carried among the enemy, and perished with the three hundred and forty Romans who fell in Agricola's battle with Galgacus.‖ An inscription, found at Great Chesters, records the rebuilding of a granary, which had fallen down through age, about A. D. 220;§ and a similar document proves that the armamentaria and principia, which had fallen down at Lanchester, were repaired in the year 238.¶ Had these buildings been coeval with the third summer of Agricola's lieutenancy, the granary had only lasted one hundred and

* Camden. † Bax. Glos. ‡ Beauties, &c. Vol. V. p. 209.
‖ Tac. in Vit. Jul. Agric. § Brand's Newc. I. 611.
¶ Beauties, &c. V. 209. Hors. Chron. Tab.

and forty-one years, and it was so ruinous as to require the phrase 'vetustate conlapsa' to describe its state; and the buildings at Lanchester had 'conlapsed' in one hundred and forty-four years. It is certain, that after he conquered the Meatæ, a great part of his fourth summer was employed in securing his conquests with a chain of forts between the Firths of Forth and Clyde. The close of his second campaign was also taken up in surrounding the enemy with castles and fortresses, and in the winter of that year, he erected temples, markets, and private buildings; and thus, by little and little, charmed the rugged vices of the natives to such a degree, that there was great emulation among them to learn the Roman tongue, and assume the Roman habit, and they began to enjoy the luxuries of arched walks, and baths, and the elegance of splendid entertainments. The third year, continues Tacitus, presented new people, and the country was devastated as far as the estuary Taus: and though the soldiers had to contend with severe tempests, there was no murmuring, and time was found to fortify their conquests with castella.* From all this, I think, there arises a strong presumptive evidence that the chain of stations from Solway Firth towards the mouth of the Tyne, was built under the direction of Agricola, and that the ancient inhabitants of this county first yielded to the Roman arms in the eighteenth year after the birth of Jesus Christ.

HADRIAN'S VALLUM consists of a mound of earth thirty feet at the base, and ten feet high; a ditch ten feet deep, and fifteen feet broad; a second mound, three feet high, and six feet at the base; another ditch, twelve feet deep, and twenty-four feet over; and north of this, about seventy feet, another mound, thirty feet broad at the base, and ten feet high. The mounds are all semicircular, and the ditches slope from the surface to the bottom, at an angle of about eighty degrees.† There are large remains of this work on Tippermoor. The three mounds, and the immense fragments of basalt, hewn out

* Vit. Jul. Agric. † Hutt. Ro. Wall, 176.

of the great ditch, and thrown confusedly on each side of it, exhibit, to this day, strong proofs of the industry and mechanical skill of the Roman people. Hadrian came into Britain A. D. 120, where, according to Spartian, he corrected many things, and made a wall *(murum)* eighty miles in length, to divide the Romans from the barbarians.*

The truth of this assertion may be inferred from another passage in the Augustine history, where it is said that "L. Urbicus, the lieutenant of Antoninus Pius (A. D. 140) conquered the Britains, and drew *another wall of turf* across the island.†

This wall was between the Firths of Forth and Clyde. Several inscriptions relating to it have been found in its ruins. One of them mentions the name of L. Urbicus, and the rest not only point out the legions employed about it, but the number of paces built by each legion.

SEVERUS died at York, in the year 210. Herodian says, he made roads and bridges, and passed the rivers and *ditches* that were the boundaries of the empire. Dion Cassius says he died in the third year after he came into Britain. He mentions the great barrier that divides the island into two parts, as a thing existing when Severus undertook his expedition; and asserts that this emperor, in the skirmishing warfare that the natives used against him, and in clearing away forests, levelling hills, draining morasses, and building bridges, lost at least fifty thousand men, and yet persisted in his design. These historians lived in the time of Severus, and are, by far, the most copious detailers of his actions; but neither of them hint a word about any wall that he built. About sixty-five years after his death, Spartian, however, not only asserts, that he built a wall eighty miles in length, across the island, but that it was the chief glory of his reign. Aurelius Victor says, it was thirty-three miles long; Eutropius has it thirty-two; and Ossorius and Cassiodorus make it one hundred and thirty-two. All that mention it agree

* Script. Hist. Aug. p. 51. † Ibid. 132.

agree that it passed from sea to sea. Spartian calls it murus aut vallum; Victor has murus in his large work, and vallum in his abridgment. Eutropius has vallum. Orosius says, magnum fossum firmissimumque vallum. Cassiodorus, too, has vallum. Antoninus, and the author of the Notitia, both of whom wrote before A. D. 416, use the phrases ad vallum, and per lineam valli. Gildas quotes the words of Orosius, and Bede not only uses the same terms, but defines them: "A murus," says he, "is made of stones; but a vallum, by which camps, intended to repel the force of an enemy, are defended, is made of turf and earth, piled up high, like a murus, above the ground, so that in the front, the place whence the earth was raised, forms a foss, and upon this are fixed stakes made of very strong beams of wood.* In Alfred's translation of this chapter, the words are ⁊ hit begyrde ⁊ gefæstnade mid dice ⁊ mid eorðpealle ðam fæ to fæ ðam ofðam elreondum ðeodum †. Boethius mentions Severus as repairing Hadrian's vallum; Suritia, as finishing Hadrian's vallum; and Pancirollus as repairing Hadrian's vallum, which had fallen down. Last of all, that penetrating and judicious antiquary, Richard of Cirencester, says, that "the unconquerable Severus, having rapidly driven back the enemy, repaired the vallum of Hadrian, which was now ruinous, and gave it its greatest perfection ‡.

Speaking of the Romans, in the year 409, Bede also says, "we have before related that they dwelt within the vallum which Severus made across the island; and this is abundantly evident, by the cities, courts, bridges, and high roads, still to be seen on its southern side.‖

In 414, a Roman legion, under GALLIO of RAVENNA,§ assisted the Britons in driving back their enemies. It exhorted them also to build a *stone wall*, to defend them against future inroads, and then returned home in triumph. But the islanders being deficient in artificers they composed the wall more of

* Ecc. Hist. l. i. c. 5. † Smith's Bede, p. 476.

‡ L. ii. c. 2. § 22. ‖ Ecc. Hist. l. i. c. 11. § Codex Theodosii.

earth than of stone, and on that account it availed nothing. This work extended from the city Guidi, on the east, to Alcluith on the west; so that where a barrier of waters was wanting, the borders were secure from the irruptions of the enemy, under the shelter of the wall. Very high and broad vestiges of this wall are still discernible. It commences about two miles from the monastery of Æbercurnig, and terminates at Alcluith.† As Bede no where mentions the wall of L. Urbicus, it is plain that this passage involves a mistake. The Britons might at this time repair the northern barrier; it is certain they were not the first to rear it.

In 416 the assistance of Rome was again implored by the Britons; another legion, coming over unexpectedly, made terrible havoc among the enemy, and drove them into their own country. But that this their last visit to Britain might be of real advantage, they exhorted the natives to emulate the valour of their enemies, and assisted them in building *a firm stone wall*, from the one sea to the other, between those cities which had been erected there through fear of the enemy, and where Severus had formerly made a vallum. This hitherto famous and conspicuous wall, built at public and private expence, with such assistance as the Britons could contribute, ranged in a right line from east to west, and was eight feet broad and twelve feet high, as is evident to this day.‡

Bede copied this account from Gildas, Abbot of Bangor, who finished his history in his fiftieth year, and ninety-six years after the Romans finally quitted the island. Bede was born at Monkton, about two miles from the eastern extremity of the wall, and educated at Hexham, which is near the middle of it. Each of the rampires would exhibit much of their original appearance in his time. The timber he mentions in the vallum might, it is probable, still be seen; and the stations, castella, and turrets of the Theodosian wall, could not be more in ruins than the religious houses deserted in the reign of King Henry the Eighth are

‡ Bed. Hist. Ecc. l. i. c. 12. † Ibid.

are at present. His writings prove that he was a person far from incurious, and it is no improbable conjecture, that he compared the books and traditions of his time, with inscriptions among the vast ruins of cities, towers, streets, and bridges, he mentions as still existing in his day. When to all this we add the advice Ammianus Marcellinus, a little before the building of this wall, gave to the Emperor THEODOSIUS, and his son, "to build castles on the frontier of the empire, a mile asunder, and joined with a firm wall and strong towers, and that these fortresses be garrisoned by the landholders adjoining;" when all this evidence is laid together it seems past all doubt, but that the wall, usually attributed to Severus, was built sometime about the seventh consulship of Theodosius the Younger, and that if Severus did any thing to these barriers, it consisted in nothing more than repairing or improving the vallum of Hadrian.

Hutton, in his account of the Roman Wall, in manifest contradiction to history, and all good criticism, has endeavoured to prove that one part of the vallum was raised by Agricola, and the rest of it by Hadrian. Agricola's fortresses were all in the way of castramentation. If Hadrian had a partner in this work it was certainly Severus.

A ROMAN ROAD accompanied these works, from Wallsend to Walwick Chesters, where it branched off towards the south, and passing through Little Chesters, joined them again at Caervorran. The *Maiden-way* extended from Caervorran to Whitley Castle, and from thence to Whellop Castle, in Westmoreland. The country people in South Tindale call it the Madeway, a term applied to it before there were any other *made* ways in its neighbourhood. Over Ridpath Moor, in the parish of Haltwhistle, the pavement of this road has been lately raised, to assist in making a new road, from Blenkinsop to Featherstonehaugh Castle. *Watling Street* enters the county at Ebchester, crosses the Tyne at Corbridge, and divides into two branches at Bewclay, a short distance north of the wall. The western

* Page 173, *et seq.*

branch passes through Reedsdale into Scotland, and has upon it the two celebrated stations, Risingham and Rochester, and the fine camp at Makeaden; the other branch is usually called the *Devil's Causeway*. It has at first an eastern direction past Ryal, towards Bolam, and from thence sweeping away by Netherwitton, and over Rimside Moor, it bears due north, and enters Scotland west of Berwick upon Tweed. We have also traced a *Roman paved way*, from the eastern gate of the station at Rochester, over Boleyard Leas, Brainshaw, and Yardhope, past Hallystone to Sharperton, and were told, on good authority, that it extended from thence to the Devil's Causeway. On the moor on the north side of Hallystone Burn; it is ten feet wide, and still remarkably perfect.

The Roman history of Britain closes in 446. Vortigern, ambitious enough, but too feeble-minded and licentious, to manage a kingdom in desperate circumstances, was at that time its ruler. At his request Hengist, a young Saxon, bred in the Roman armies, and of great wisdom and courage, brought over an army of his countrymen to assist the Britons in restraining the ravages of the Picts. The first object of their mission being successfully effected, the Saxons began to turn their arms against their employers; and after a struggle of about one hundred and thirty years finally completed the conquest of Britain. Octa, the brother of Hengist, and Ebussa, Octa's son, in 452, settled on the north side of the Tyne, and then cleared the country of the Britons as far as the Humber. They and their successors were styled Ealdormen, and held their conquest as a fee of the crown of Kent.* There were no kings in Northumberland till the time of the heptarchy, when Ida, in 547, assumed the sovereignty over all that tract of country, which lies between the two seas, *north of the Humber*, to the rivers Forth and Clyde.† It was divided into two provinces.—*Deira*, south of the Tyne, and *Bernicia*, north of it; each province having at times

* Rapin, I. 149. Selden. Tit. Hon. 511.

† Smith's Bed. pp. 52, 87, 654. Gough's Camden, III. 243.

times its separate king. The dynasty of Northumbrian kings ended with Eanred, who became tributary to Egbert, king of Wessex, and died in 841. "This kingdom," says Milton, "was now fallen to shivers; their kings, one after another, so often slain by the people, no man daring, though never so ambitious, to take up a sceptre, which many had found so hot."*

Taking advantage of these troubles the Danes made several desperate inroads into it; and, in 876, the kingdom of Northumberland, which had lasted three hundred and thirty years, "was cantled out among Danish officers,"† who now, as possessors of the soil, began to plough and sow.‡ From this period to the time of Edward the Confessor, its laws were Danish, when they were incorporated with the West Saxon and Mercian codes, and the whole made common to England, under the name of the laws of Edward. Though the governors of Northumberland were sometimes styled kings after the heptarchy, their province was dependent, and their most usual title was that of earl. In 970, the hereditary government of the whole appearing an elevation too high for a subject, Edgar created Oslach, earl of the country, between the Humber and the Tees; and conferred the same dignity on Eadulf Ewilthid, with the country from the Tees to the Forth.§ Continual wars, new colonies of people, and the incessant fluctuation of power, from one people or family to another, from the fall of Rome to the Norman conquest, caused all kinds of boundaries to be very unsettled. Northumberland was abridged of its extent by degrees. All the district, from the Tweed to Edinburgh, was granted to Kenneth, King of Scotland, by Edgar, soon after his accession to the whole English monarchy.‖ To the former possessions of the see of Lindisfurne, Guthred, in 894, had granted the whole of the present county of Durham;¶ Alfred confirmed the grant, and the bishops of Durham have hitherto kept possession of

* Hist. Eng. 220. † Rapin, I. 91. Holl. Chron. b. vi. c. 13.
‡ Sax. Chron. p. 83. Mailros Chron. § Sim. Dunel. 204.
‖ Ridpath's Bord. Hist. p. 50. ¶ Sim. Dunel. p. 22.

of that territory without many deprivations. Ranulphus de Meschines had a grant of Cumberland, from William the Conqueror;* and Robert Mowbray, who rebelled against Rufus, and died in Windsor Castle, after an imprisonment of thirty years, was the last that bore the official title of Earl of Northumberland.† "After that æra, it had its vice-comes, or high-sheriff, and was distinguished by wards and baronies, except when it was in the hands of the Bishop of Durham."‡

From the time of King Stephen, to the union of the crowns of England and Scotland, in James, this county formed a conspicuous part of the theatre of the BORDER wars; the people of Tindale and Reedsdale, in common with the borderers in Cumberland and Scotland, being in these times nothing less than clans of lawless banditti. As these two Northumbrian dales were not subdued by the Conqueror, "they have retained," says Grey, in his Chorographia, "to this day, the ancient laws and customs, according to the county of Kent, whereby the lands of the father is equally divided, at his death, amongst all his sonnes."—"There is many every year brought in of them, and at the assizes are condemned and hanged, sometimes twenty or thirty. They forfeit not their lands, according to the tenure of Gavel kind, the father to bough, the sonne to the plough."—"If any two be displeased, they expect no law, but bang it out bravely, one and his kindred, the other and his."—"This fighting they call feides, or deadly feides. Since the union, this heathenish bloody custome is repressed.§" "Both these valleys," says Camden,‖ "produce notable bog-trotters; and both have their hills so swampy on the top, as to be inaccessible to cavalry. All over these wastes one sees a set of people, like the ancient Nomades, of a warlike disposition, who watch here, with their flocks, from April to August, in scattered huts, called Sheales." "Such adepts were they in the art of thieving, that they could twist a cow's

* Gough's Camd. III. 209. † Wilkin's Leg. Ang. Sax. 286.

‡ Wallis, I. xiv. § P. 33. anno 1649. ‖ Gough, III. 233.

a cow's horn, or mark a horse, so that its owner could not know it. A person telling King James a surprising story of a cow that had been driven from the north of Scotland into the south of England, and, escaping from the herd, had found her way home, 'the most surprising part of the story,' the king replied, 'you lay least stress on, that she passed unstolen through the debateable land.*'"

By statutes of the second and ninth of Henry the Fifth, on complaint of murder and violent outrages committed in the franchises of Tindale, Reedsdale, and Hexhamshire, into which districts the king's writ did not extend, it was enacted, that all persons committing murders within these franchises shall be proceeded against by common law, till they be outlawed; and that their lands be forfeited to the liberties they belong, or to the king, as they happen within their respective limits.† The "Northe Tyne devidethe Tyndale frome Northeumbarland. For Tyndall, thowghe it be a parte of Northumberland, yet it is a parte privilegyd within it selfe.‡"

Harrison, with his usual plainness, says, "men have doubted whether thieves or true men doo most abound in these dales. Nevertheless, sithens that by the diligence cheefelie of Maister Gilpin, and finallie of other learned preachers, the grace of God working with them, they have beene called unto some obedience and zeal unto the Word, it is found that they have so well profited by the same, that at this present their former sauage demeanour is very much abated, and their barbarous wildnesse, and fiercesse so qualified, that there is great hope left of their reduction unto ciuilitie, and better order of behauiour, than hitherto they have beene acquainted withall."§ "In this dreadful country, where no man would even travel that could help it, Mr. Gilpin never failed to spend some part of the year. He had set places for preaching, which were as regularly attended as the assize towns of a circuit. The disinterested

* Gilp. Life of Gilp. 175. † Keble's Stat. at Large. pp. 213, 470.

‡ Lel. It. Vol. VII. pt. i, fol. 75. § Desc. of Brit. b. i. c. 14.

interested pains he thus took among these barbarous people, and the good offices he was always ready to do them, drew from them the sincerest expressions of gratitude. How well his name was revered amongst them, one instance will shew:—By the carelessness of his servants, his horses were one day stolen. The news was quickly spread, and every one expressed the highest indignation at the fact. The thief was rejoicing over his prize, when, by the report of the country, he found whose horses he had taken. Terrified at what he had done, he instantly came trembling back, confessed the fact, restored the horses, and declared he believed the devil would have seized him directly, had he carried them off, knowing them to be Mr. Gilpin's."*

The progress of good principle and civilization was, however, but slow amongst them, for in the preamble of a border treaty, made in 1596, mention occurs "of the lamentable effects which the lawless and disobedient disposition of the most of the inhabitants thereof, emboldened with long impunity, and toleration of careless officers, hath wrought between the marches, to the offence of God's most holy majesty, and the great dishonour of the princes, and pitiful desolation of both the borders, exhausted by these means both of inhabitants and goods." In this treaty it was also recommended, "that the princes be most humbly and earnestly solicited to cause God's ministers of the word to be planted in every border church, to inform the lawless people of their duty, and to watch over their manners; and that the principal inhabitants of each parish be put in surety to their prince, for due reverence to be used towards their pastors in their offices, and the safety of their persons; and that, to this effect, order may be timely taken for reparation of the decayed churches within the bounds.†"

"In what a wretched condition our English borders were before the union of the crowns (nor were the Scotch in any better) appears from that amazing list that we have of the many

* Gilp. Life of Gilp. 176, 181. † Bp. Nich. Bord. Laws, 104.

many hundreds that were continually employed in night-watches; the rest of the neighbourhood being obliged, at all hours, to rise and follow the fray: and the latter part of the border service reached as far as the county of Lancaster, though the chief of its terrors were more confined."* To prevent these evils, Lord Wharton, in his letter to the commissioners he appointed for the division of lands in the east and middle marches, says, nothing better could be done "than strengthening the county with enclosures, hedges, and ditches; and I authorise and command you, in the king's highness' name, to cause all such portions thereof as be convenient for tillage, meadows, or grassings, to be enclosed with ditches, five quarters in breadth, and six quarters in depth, and to be double set with quick-wood, and hedged above three quarters high.†"

MARCH is the same as mark; it signifies a boundary. The title of marquis originated in the office of warden of marches. The English borders were divided into three of these marches. The western march extended from the western sea to Tindale. The middle march comprised Tindale and Reedsdale; and the eastern march reached from Reedsdale to Tweedmouth. The office of lord warden-general being of a military nature, was vested with large authorities, and usually bestowed on the dukes or earls of Northumberland. The executive part of the office was, however, mostly put into the hands of a deputy, under whom were three deputy wardens. One of these officers, by the king's commission, sat as judge in the march-courts, and

* Bp. Nich. Bord. Laws, Pref. xxxiii.

† Ibid. p. 220. "Many," says Gardiner, "have admired the poverty of Northumberland, as well they may, for what with the bloody tyrants, the Scots, on the north of that poor county, and oppressive corporation of Newcastle on the south thereof, bounded in with high lands on the west, and the sea on the east, it can get nothing but strokes, and worried out of what they have, and not being tolerated to make use of their own, and cold blasts from the sea, &c. Eng. Gricv. Dis. p. 129.

and assisted in settling treaties with Scotland, and in framing the border laws.

Most of the lands of the county were held of the king, by knights' service. The barons, and people of quality, dwelt in strong castles, or moated towers. The middle classes of the people held their lands of the barons, chiefly in soccage tenure, and lived in buildings called peels, or piles, in the ground floor of which their cattle were kept in the nights, and the upper rooms reserved for the use of the family. The lowest sort, in common with the middle class, were subject to a most grievous service, in keeping night-watches at all the fords, passes, and inlets of valleys, to guard against the incursions, and spread alarm at the approach of the enemy. When the opposite borderers made their appearance, every man within hearing of the blowing of the horn, was obliged, on pain of death, to rise and follow the fray. The pursuit of hot-trode is thus mentioned in the treaty of 1563: "The parties grieved to follow their lawful trode with hound and horn, hue and cry, and all other accustomed manner of fresh pursuit, for the recovery of their goods spoiled." *

This slavery, and all this barbarism and contention, have happily, since the union, been gradually disappearing. The country has been enclosed far up the valleys of Tindale and Reedsdale, and the refinements of great civilization now prevail, where less than two centuries since robbery was a trade; and if the inhabitants were not pursuing a horde of Scotch banditti, with blazing faggots, blood-hounds,† and savage cries, they were employed in burning the villages, or plundering the farms of Liddesdale.

This county lies between 54° 51′ and 55° 51′ of latitude, and from

* Leg. March, 127.

† A sure way of stopping the dog was to spill blood upon the track, which destroyed the discriminating fineness of his scent. A captive was sometimes sacrificed on such occasions. Lay of Last Minstrel, canto i. st. xxi.

from 1° to 2° 29′ of longitude, west of London. It has the county of Durham on the south, Cumberland on the west, Scotland on the north, and the German Ocean on the east. Bedlingtonshire, Islandshire, Norhamshire, are in the county, and subject to the courts of Durham; but the liberties of Hexham, Tindale, and Reedsdale, have been annexed to the county of Northumberland.*

In civil matters, Northumberland is divided into six wards, and six hundred and thirty-five constableries; and in church affairs into five deanries, and seventy-three parishes.† The names of the wards are Tindale, Morpeth, Castle, Glendale, Bamborough, and Coquetdale; and of the deanries, Newcastle, Corbridge, Bamburgh, Alnwick, and Morpeth, all of which are in the archdeaconry of Northumberland and diocese of Durham. The churches of Hexham, Allondale, and St. Johnlee, with their respective chapels, are peculiars of the see of York; and Throckington is a peculiar of the church of York.

According to the returns of population made to parliament in 1801, this county, with Berwick-upon-Tweed, contained 26,518 inhabited houses, 35,503 families, and 157,101 persons; of whom 73,357 were males, 83,744 females, 25,738 employed in trade and manufactures, and 23,190 in agriculture. By the account given to the House of Lords, in 1805, it contains 1809 statute miles, or 1,157,760 statute acres; each square mile, of 640 acres, having eighty-seven persons, and the total number of persons 157,383.

By the returns made for the county, exclusive of Berwick-upon-Tweed, under the defence and security act, October the sixth, 1801, it appears that 24,741 persons offered their services in various capacities against the enemy, in case of invasion; one hundred and forty refused to serve in any capacity whatever; there were also sixty-five aliens, sixty-five quakers, and

* Pulton's Statutes, p. 970.

† Inclusive of the parishes of Bedlington, Berwick, Holy Island, and Norham, which are in the county of Durham. Comp. to Armst. Map, p. 11.

and in all 99,231 persons returned. The defect in the total number occurred in the lists of infirm persons, women, and children.

The pit COAL of this county is the great staple of its trade. It is found in the greatest abundance, and of the best quality, where the strata which accompany it are unconnected with limestone. When it burns to a hard cinder, and leaves few ashes, it is best suited, both on account of heat and cleanliness, for domestic purposes. It is fortunate, however, that coal found near limestone answers best for burning it. A line drawn from Alnemouth, by the sea coast, to Tynemouth; from thence by the southern boundary of the county, into the parish of Bywell, and from Bywell to Alnemouth, nearly excludes all the limestone strata, and incloses the most valuable of the coal.* This district, as far as it has been pierced into, is found to consist of strata of various kinds of silecious stone, schistus, and coal. Beds of schistus usually lie both above and beneath the coal-seams, and are often thickly and beautifully impressed with vegetable forms, such as ferns, vetches, and grasses: we have seen ears of barley, and the leaves of pine apples, taken from them.† In these beds are also found layers of iron-stones, sometimes in nodules; more frequently in rhombords, with the corners rounded off. Sometimes large trees are found, extending out of the clay into the stone strata, as at Kenton, where are seats of stone, hewn from one of these remarkable fossils, that shew the yearly rings of the tree, and the roughness of its bark. Pieces of half carbonated wood, apparently of the pine tribe, have also been found amongst the coal—which seems to establish an opinion entertained by several very able and inquisitive men, that coal is a vegetable substance ‡—the remains of forests overwhelmed by extraordinary inundations of the ocean.

In every coal district the stratification which attends the fossil always

* Gen. View, p. 20.

† See Whitehurst's Orig. and Form, p. 203. Hutton's Ed. 1792.

‡ Brand's Newc. II. 243.

always terminates, and is ill-defined and disordered, as it approaches to mountains composed of granite or porphyry; a circumstance which would induce the belief that substances of this kind rise from beneath the coal, and that the coal itself never lies far from the surface. The strata in Northumberland generally dips or inclines towards the east; each stratum, too, in the same district, usually keeps its parallelism, with respect to those immediately above and below it, through all the confusion of those perpendicular rents and chasms, which, in mining language, are termed *dikes*, *slips*, *hitches*, and *troubles*. Some of these chasms are filled up with substances swept into them, as it would seem, from the surface, such as clay, sand, and round stones. Some of them are the receptacles of metals and beautiful spars, and others are composed of basalt, a substance bearing a strong resemblance to lava, and which seems to have issued hot from the interior parts of the earth. The basalt dike in the coal mine at Walker is cased with the cinder of coals. The processes of nature have, however, been carried on in so large a scale, that we can seldom comprehend the principles she acts upon. These dikes vary much, both in their wideness and direction: they frequently break the uniform inclination of the strata to so great a degree, that on each side of them the partings of the same seam are often elevated or depressed several feet from each other.

Dr. Mac Nab estimated the extent of the coal fields in Northumberland and Durham at twenty miles by fifteen, or three hundred square miles; and computed that one square mile was equal to the consumption of one year. Supposing his calculation true, and the consumption on this proportion, the coal would last three hundred and seventy years. But large tracts of this district have been already excavated, and, unless other seams be discovered than have been brought into the doctor's account, the trade cannot possibly exist to the extent of his calculation. Messrs. Bailey and Cully have estimated its duration at eight hundred and twenty-five years.*

* Gen. View, 19.

Prior to Mr. Newcommon's application of steam to raising water from coal mines, both the water and coal were usually raised by *engines, wrought by horses*, a method still in use among the land-sale collieries. Two centuries ago, however, we find a patent granted by James the Sixth, of Scotland, for the discovery of an engine for raising water from coal mines.* In 1630 a charter was also given to a person called David Ramsay for a similar invention.† Master Beaumont brought with him "rare engines to draw water out of pits."‡ At the collieries at Lumley, about 1676, "the engines were placed in the lowest places, that there may be the less way for the water to rise; and if there be a running stream to work the engines it is happy. Chain pumps are the best engines, for they draw constant and even: but they can have but two stories of them; the second being with an axle-tree of seven or eight fathoms, and the deepest story is wrought by buckets, and a wheel and ropes, with the force at the top." § Though the power of steam, as applicable to mechanics, was known so early as 1655, as is evident from the Marquis of Worcester's Century of Inventions, we have no account of *steam engines* in these collieries before the beginning of the last century. The first in Northumberland was erected at Byker, in 1714, by the son of a Swedish nobleman, who taught mathematics in Newcastle. This powerful engine is now in common use in all the large collieries. As simplifiers of it the names of Messrs. Bolton and Watt, as well as that of the ingenious builder of the Eddystone light-house, will be long remembered.

The shaft of the coal mine at St. Anthony's, near Newcastle, was two hundred and seventy yards deep, and passed through sixteen seams of coal. The seam called the High Main was six feet, the Low Main six feet and a half, the tenth seam three feet, the thirteenth three feet three inches, and the fourteenth three feet two inches deep, making in all twenty-two feet of workable coal. The shaft of Montague Main, three miles west of

* Arn. Hist. of Edinb. 66. † Rym. Fœd. l. xix. f. 189.

‡ Grey's Choro. 26. § North's Life of Guilford, p. 137. Brand.

of Newcastle, was two hundred and forty-five yards, had fifteen coal seams, four of which were workable, and measured thirteen feet and a half. The Low Main at Willington, about five miles east of Newcastle, is two hundred and eighty yards below the surface.*

Theophrastus, in his History of Stones, has described coal as a fossil of an earthy nature, that kindles and burns like charcoal, and is used by smiths. The Britons had a primitive term for it; and a celt, or axe of flint, was found in a coal vein exposed to the day in Craig-y-Parc, in Monmouthshire,† circumstances which favour the conjecture that the early Britons used coal. The Romans evidently made use of them. Siculus Flaccus says they were one of the things made use of for landmarks; and St. Augustine describes them as applied to that purpose from their imperishable nature: "They who pitch landmarks are wont to throw them underneath, to convince any litigious person, who should affirm, though ever so long after, that no land-mark was there."‡ Roman coins were found in a large heap of coal cinders at North Bierly, in Yorkshire.§ "There is a coalry not far from Benwell, a part of which is judged, by those who are best skilled in such affairs, to have been wrought by the Romans."‖ Small coals and cinders have been mixed with the lime used in several of the Roman stations; and "in digging up some of the foundations of their walled city Magna, or Caervorran, in 1762, coal cinders, some very large, were turned up, glowed in the fire like other cinders, and not to be known from them when taken out."¶

Though, by a grant dated A. D. 852, twelve cart loads of fossil coal (cpælf ꝑoðvn ȝlæȝan**) were to be yearly paid to the abbey of Peterborough, yet, during the Saxon and Danish ages of this country, and for upwards of one hundred years after the conquest, coals are never mentioned. Henry the Third granted a charter

* Gen. View, pp. 14, 17. † Pennant's Wales, 17.
‡ Lib. d. civ. Dei. 21. c. 4. § Whit. Manc. ‖ Hors. Brit. Rom. 297.
¶ Wallis, H. p. 119. ** Sax. Chron.

a charter to Newcastle, December the first, 1239, "to dig coals and stones, on the common soil of that town, without the walls thereof, in a place called the Castle-field and the Forth." * In an inquisition, dated 1245, it is called *carbo maris;* and, thirty-six years after, the coal trade had increased so much as to double the worth of the town of Newcastle.

The use of this article was so great amongst the artificers in London in 1306, that it was considered a public nuisance, and prohibited under severe penalties. † Soon after they were, however, in use in the king's palace. ‡ Æneas Sylvius § says, that when he visited Scotland the poor people were content to receive, as alms, pieces of stone, impregnated with inflammable substances, which they burn instead of wood, *of which their country is destitute.* "Colys will not byrne withowte wodd." ‖ "Their greatest trade beginneth now to grow from the forge to the kitchen and hall, as may appeare alreadie in most cities and townes that lie about the coast, where they have but little other fewell, except it be turffe or hassocke. I maruell not a little that there is no trade of these into Sussex and Southampton shire, for want whereof the smiths doo worke their iron with charcoale." ¶ "Within thirty yeares last the nice dams of London would not come into any house or roome where sea coales were burned; nor willingly eat of the meat that was either sod or roasted with sea coal fire." **

Tinmouth priory had a colliery at Elwick, which in 1330 was let at the yearly rent of five pounds; in 1530 it was let for twenty pounds a year, on condition that not more than twenty chaldron should be drawn in a day; and eight years after at fifty pounds a year, without restriction on the quantity to be wrought. †† In Richard the Second's time Newcastle coals were

* Gard. Eng. Griev. p. 9.

† Prynne, 4 Inst. 182. Stow's Ann. f. 1025. An. 1632.

‡ Brand's Newc. II. 254. § Opera, p. 443.

‖ Northum. House Bk. Anno. 1512.

¶ Harrison's Desc. of Eng. p. 397. Ed. 1807. ** Stow's Ann. *ut sup.*

†† Brand's Newc. II. 255, 264.

were sold at Whitby at three shillings and fourpence per chaldron:* and in the time of Henry the Eighth their price was 'twelvepence' a chaldron in Newcastle; in London 'about four shillings;' and 'in France they sold for thirteen nobles per chaldron.'

By statute of the ninth of Henry the Fifth, chap. 10, commissioners were appointed to measure the portage of keels or vessels which conveyed the coals from the stathes to the ships. These keels had usually contained twenty chaldrons a piece; but as persons not franchised of Newcastle paid a duty of twopence per chaldron to the king, in order to evade a part of it, they increased the portage of their keels, without the knowledge of the officers of the customs.†

Queen Elizabeth obtained a lease of the manors and coalmines of Gateshead and Whickham, which she soon transferred to the Earl of Leicester. He assigned it to his secretary Sutton, the founder of the Charter House, who also made assignment of it to Sir W. Riddell and others for the use of the mayor and burgesses of Newcastle. This circumstance was much complained of in London, as a scandalous monopoly, which had caused coals to rise to the rate of nine shillings a chaldron. Other grievances were added. The company of hostmen, in Newcastle, granted to the queen, in 1600, a duty of twelvepence per chaldron; and two years after the hostmen, by a private agreement among themselves, fixed the price at ten shillings for the best, for the second sort nine shillings, and for the 'meane coles' eight shillings per chaldron.

This trade had now advanced to great importance. In the latter end of Queen Elizabeth's reign the duty of fourpence a chaldron produced 10,000l. a year. Upwards of 400 ships were constantly employed in it, and a fleet of fifty sail went laden from Newcastle to different ports of France, while the Dutch and Danes supplied the Flemish ports.‡ A year after 13,675 tons of coals were shipped from the port of Newcastle.

* Charlton's Whitby, p. 260. † Keble's Stat. at Large, p. 136. ‡ An. 1615.

The arbitrary taxes imposed on this trade, and the shameful monopolies he authorised in it, contributed greatly to induce the downfal of Charles. After the Scottish armies took Newcastle, the House of Commons began to direct the coal trade, and govern the town; by which step, they were enabled to send, for the use of the poor of London, large supplies of coals, which had "risen to the price of four pound per chaldron."* But these patriots were not always successful in their schemes; for in 1648, even under the sunshine of the commonwealth, coals were so oppressively dear in London, that many of the poor were miserably starved to death; a circumstance which was charged on the governor of Newcastle for the severe imposition of four shillings per chaldron upon them."

"Many thousand people are employed in this trade of coales: many live by working of them in the pits: many live by conveying them in waggons and waines to the river Tine: many men are employed in conveying the coales in keels from the stathes aboard the ships: one coal merchant employed five hundred or a thousand in his work of coals: yet for all his labour, care, and cost, can scarce live of his trade: nay, many of them hath consumed and spent great estates, and dyed beggars. I can remember one of many that raysed his estate by coale trade: many, I remember, that hath wasted great estates.

"Some south gentlemen have, upon great hope of benefit, come into this country to hazard their monies in coale-pits.—Master Beaumont, a gentleman of great ingenuity, and rare parts, adventured into our mines with his thirty thousand pounds; who brought with him many rare engines, not known then in these parts—as the art to bore with iron rods, to try the deepnesse and thicknesse of the coale, rare engines to draw water out of the pits, waggons with one horse, to carry down coales from the pits, to the stathes to the river, &c. Within few years he consumed all his money, and rode home upon his light horse."†

The

* Bourne's News. 154. † Grey's Chore. p. 24.

"The coale trade began not past four-score years since: coales in former times was only used by smiths, and for burning of lime: woods in the south parts of England decaying, and the city of London, and other great cities and townes growing populous, made the trade for coale increase yearly, and many great ships of burthen built, so that there was more coales vented in one year, than was in seven, forty years by past: this great trade hath made this towne to flourish in all trades."

Duties were laid upon this article to assist in building St. Paul's church, and fifty parish churches in London after the great fire in that city, and in 1677, Charles the Second granted to his natural son, Charles Lenox, Duke of Richmond, and his heirs, a duty of one shilling a chaldron on coals,* which continued in the family till it was purchased by government in 1800, for the annual payment of 19,000l. This duty produces upwards of 25,000l. a year at present.

In 1699, Newcastle had two thirds of the coal trade, and 300,000 chaldrons, in all, went annually to London. The oversea trade employed 900,000 tons of shipping. Coals about that time sold in London for eighteen shillings a chaldron, out of which five shillings were paid to the King, one shilling and sixpence to St. Paul's, and one shilling and sixpence metage. It was then also stated to the House of Commons that six hundred ships, one with another, of the burden of eighty Newcastle chaldron, with 4,500 men, were requisite for carrying on this trade. There were also then employed on the Tyne, four hundred keels, and between fifteen and 16,000 keelmen.†

The increase of this trade has hitherto continued progressive. In eight years, from January the first, 1802, to December the thirtieth, 1809, it appears, that 4,713,476 Newcastle chaldrons, or 12,490,707 tons of coals, were exported from the Tyne.

Sir Robert Mansell, knight, Vice Admiral of England, established *glass works* on the Tyne, in 1619, in which year we

 find

* Brand's Newc. II. 296, 298. † Ibid. 303, 304.

find the "Henseys, Teswickes, and Tytteres," settled in Newcastle. In 1635, there was a royal proclamation, prohibiting the importation of glass, and confirming the sole right of manufacturing it to Sir Robert, on account of the great excellence to which he had brought the art, and the great saving of wood he had caused by the use of pit-coal in this trade. At present there are twenty-eight glass houses on the Tyne, which pay an annual duty of about 180,000l.

Lead ore is found in great abundance in the western parts of the county. "Allenhead's mines have been worked for time immemorial."* They have belonged to the Blackett family upwards of one hundred and twenty years, as appears by a stone inscribed "Sir William Blackett, 1684," and found at the mouth of one of the water levels.† There is a complication of veins at this place very productive; but the mines at Coalcleugh, near the head of the East Allen, have, perhaps, been wrought to the greatest advantage. "It has been known, that a single length, at this place, in the course of twelve years, has raised 10,000 bings," or 4000 tons, "of lead ore."‡ The ores here have the calcareous or fluor spars for their matrix;‖ and the sides of the mines are often richly decorated with pellucid and and polished crystals, of various minerals; but are never so magnificent and glorious as when they are interspersed with yellow ore of copper, and with pyrites and black jack, which in hard veins, are found to produce the most beautiful colours in the world.§ The whole of the lead mines of Allendale, annually produce about 12,000 bings of ore. It is smelted and refined at Dukesfield, and produces about seven or eight ounces of silver from each fother of lead.¶

There also lead mines at Shilden, near Corbridge, at Fallowfield, in the parish of St. Johnlee and at Little Houghton, near Bamborough; and also indications of it at Sharpley and Overton, near Simonburn, and in different places on the south side of the Tyne,

* Wallis, I. 120. † Forster's Treatise, &c. 130 ‡ Ib. 73.
‖ Ib. 84. § Ib. 87. ¶ Gen. View, 22.

Tyne, in the parishes of Knaresdale and Kirkhaugh. There have also been mines of it in Rothbury forest, and at Stonecroft, in the chapelry of Newbrough.* The ore got at Fallowfield, contains so little silver, that it will not pay the expence of smelting.†

The ore of zinc abounds in most of the veins producing lead; and immense quantities of iron stone lie thickly imbedded in the strata of indurated clay through all the coal district. There were formerly furnaces for smelting iron at Bebside on the Blythe, and at Lee Hall, on the North Tyne. The works at Lemmington are supplied with iron-stone from several of the collieries on the Tyne; and from the neighbourhood of Whitby, in Yorkshire.

There are several conical heaps of metallic scoria, at a hamlet, called Ridleys, in the parish of Hallystone; and it is in the memory of persons yet alive, since diligent search was made about this place to discover the veins that produced them; but it does not appear that this search was attended with success. Mr. Wallis was probably misled, when he was informed that these heaps were the refuse of copper, as he certainly was respecting the indications of that metal in the neighbourhood of Ingram, and of Eglingham. An attempt was formerly made to extract copperas from the pyrites or gold-stones, raised from a small colliery in Eglingham parish, and the refuse of this unsuccessful speculation, was mistaken for the scoria of copper.

The SOIL of Northumberland varies, from irreclaimable barrenness to great fertility, in many gradations. Along the tops of the mountains, which occupy the numerous primary sources of the Tyne, little else is to be seen but broad heaths and cold and swampy morasses. As the streams grow larger the sides of the hills wear a greener aspect; and spots of greater loveliness and richer soils, than skirt their banks about Lamley and Featherstonehaugh Castle, and in the neighbourhood of Bellingham, are no where to be found. The Cheviot Hills, though they are patched

* Wallis, I. 121. † Gen. View, 22.

patched with heath, and are spongy and barren towards their heads, are, upon the whole, remarkably fertile. The ridges and furrows, apparent in various parts of Kidland, plainly show that the feet and sloping sides of these finely-formed hills have, at one time, been more accustomed to cultivation than at present. As the population here has lessened by increasing the size of the farms, and the farmers settling lower down in the country, the plough-share has been disused and grazing prevailed. This district is wholly occupied by shepherds. From Whittingham to the Tweed, the soil is of a sharp gravelly nature, and in a high state of cultivation. The undulating hills about Ilderton, and in the neighbourhood of Branxton, Wark, and Carham, exhibit, in harvest, one of the finest cultivated prospects in Britain. From Doddington to Berwick, nearly along the line of the Devil's Causeway, the country is traversed with a chain of low moory hills. The plains about Belford are extremely rich and beautiful; and from the whin rocks of Bamborough, along the sea coast as far as the Wans-beck, the soil is of a strong grateful quality. Between Shillbottle and the sea it is uncommonly productive. All that tract which lies between the Wans-beck and the Tyne, and stretches in a westerly direction from the sea through the manor of Ogle, towards Kirkheaton, lies upon sub-strata, retentive of moisture, and is of a cold clayey quality. The valley of Hexham, including South Tyne as far as Haltwhistle, and the North Tyne as far as Bellingham, is a fine sharp loam, which rises up the sloping sides of the hills, till it meets with thin soils covered with poor grasses, and in many places with heath. The harvests in this valley are the earliest, its trees have the richest foliage, and its landscape is the most diversified and interesting of any in Northumberland.

Cold and pining easterly winds prevail here during the months of March, April, and frequently the greater part of May. When the western breezes set in, the progress of vegetation is rapid. It is not uncommon to see the trees in the beginning of May as arid and leafless as in December; and, through the influence of mild

mild westerly winds, and kind rains, in the course of eight or ten days not a branch to be seen. When these westerly breezes increase into hurricanes it is a sure indication of a deluge of rain being falling at the time in the western counties of England and Scotland. The autumn of the year is the summer of Northumberland. The months of September and October are usually fine settled weather. From the middle of November to the latter end of March the winter tyranises severely. The largest falls of snow are brought by winds that sweep over the longest tracts of land. Wherever the country is dry and well cultivated, the air is most salubrious.

In so great diversity of soil and climate, a corresponding diversity of produce and management is to be expected. The usual *rotation* of *crops*, on dry soils, is, turnips, barley, or wheat, clover for one or two years, oats, or where barley has been grown after turnips, wheat is sometimes sown. Upon strong loams, fallow wheat, clover, for one or two years, beans or oats. Upon moist thin loams or ochrey clays, fallow, wheat, clover, and grass seeds for two years; and, upon moory soils, fallow, oats, clover, and grass seeds two years, oats. * Near Wooler it has been found, that, on ground properly prepared for comparitive experiment, the difference in favour of drill ridges, at nine inches asunder, over the broad cast way, is in the proportion of thirty-six bushels of wheat, each weighing fifty-nine pound, to thirty-four bushels, each fifty-eight pound; and, by another experiment, as forty-two bushels and a half, each sixty pound, is to forty bushels, each fifty-nine pound. † At the same place in was also discovered, from two experiments, that the weight of drilled turnips, were to those of the broadcast husbandry, in the rates of four to three. ‡ Some of the most intelligent farmers in the same neighbourhood find, that a course of three years tillage and three years grass, is a much more profitable system than one year clover, or any other system they have tried.

Independent

* Bailey's Durham. † Ib. p. 117. ‡ Ib. p. 161.

Independent of the produce of the fold-yard, the *manures*, chiefly in use, are lime, marle, and sea-weed. *Lime* is plentiful in almost all parts of the county, except in the porphyry district of the Cheviot Hills, and the coal-field in Castle Ward. *Stone marle* 'abounds in many places near the Tweed side.' * Large supplies of excellent *shell-marle* are drawn from boggs in the parishes of Branxton and Carham, and have been employed on the grass lands about Wark and Learmouth with great effect. Clayey marles, that effervesce in nitrous acid, are found at Ilderton, Chillingham, and Westwood, near Hexham. †. The *marine weeds*, collected from rocks, or washed ashore by heavy seas, are much esteemed along the coast; and a considerable supply of manure is also annually brought as ballast from London in the ships employed in the coal trade.

The TYHES of this county have, perhaps, no peculiar feature. Out of the seventy-three parishes contained within its boundaries, only thirteen are rectories; the tythes of hay and corn are consequently in the hands of opulent laymen, a cause which, more than any other, operates against their being exchanged for a fair equivalent.

As an increase both of knowledge and capital has of late years been employed in agriculture, the *rental* of the county has rapidly advanced. In 1809 it amounted to 916,857l. 18s. 11½d. The annual value of estates, rise from the smallest sums to upwards of 30,000l.—one estate is said to be more than 80,000l. a year. In some of the mountainous districts, especially towards the sources of the Tyne, there are several small estates, from thirty to three hundred a year, farmed by their proprietors. As most of these have been handed down from father to son, through successions of several generations, strong attachments to ancient methods of husbandry have descended with them, and new improvements have been slowly countenanced. The farms, in general, are largest in Glendale and Bamborough Wards. "In the other parts of the county they are from fifty to three hundred

* Gen. View, 20. † Wallis, I. 33. 35.

dred a year; some tenants, in the northern parts of the county, farm from 2000l. to 4000l. a year and upwards. In 1804, dry fertile loams let for fifty to fifty-five shillings per acre; and and rich old grazing pastures for sixty to seventy shillings per acre, tythe free." * A large farm in the parish of Carham is now let for twenty-one years, at upwards of sixty shillings per acre. The whole of the rents are paid in money, and four or five months credit usually given to the farmers.

Great attention has been paid to *rearing stock*. The short-horned cattle, usually called the *Dutch breed*, on account of their rapid growth, become favourites among the graziers. "They are now sold fat to the butchers at three years and a half old, and a carcase in general weighs from sixty to eighty stone." The *Cheviot sheep* are a very beautiful breed, which weigh, when fat, from twelve to eighteen pounds a quarter. The *Heath sheep*, so called from their being peculiarly adapted to bleak and heathy mountains, afford a fine flavoured mutton, and weigh from twelve to sixteen pounds a quarter. The *long wooled sheep*, a breed greatly improved by the enterprizing spirit of Mr. Cully, are remarkable for fatting at an early age. They are frequently called the Dishly breed, and were first introduced into this country in the year 1766. † They weigh from eighteen to twenty-six pound per quarter, and their fleeces average seven pound and a half a piece.

Since the year 1728, upwards of 134,000 acres of waste lands have been divided and inclosed; and though there are still very large tracts of open ground in the sheep-walks, very little of it is common. Most of the moors are private property, divided by casts of heath, ridges of hills, or by streams. These boundaries of property are called *marches*. The tenure is mostly freehold. "There are some small parcels of copyhold; and in those districts which belong to the county of Durham, some leasehold for lives, or years, held under the church. There are also two or three manors of customary tenure towards the head of South Tyne." ‡

The

* Gen. View, p. 29. anno 1797. † Marshall's Rev. &c. p. 51.
‡ Gen. View, p. 26.

The *peasantry* here, have been supposed to be still under a species of vassalage. * The farmers retain few servants in their houses: their labourers are called hinds, and, like their shepherds, are mostly married men and live in cottages upon the farms. In addition to their annual wages, they have certain quantities of provisions and fuel allowed, them at stipulated prices. They have also the privilege of keeping two cows, or receiving three pounds a year in lieu of each. Their condition is much better than that of small farmers, who, in addition to extreme hard labour, have their sleep disturbed by rent-day dreams.

CANALS.—Application was made to parliament in 1709, and leave obtained to bring in a bill to make the river Tyne navigable from Newburne to Hexham; but the corporation of Newcastle opposed the measure, as likely to be ruinous to their port. † Similar projects were revived in 1795, but they ended with no better success. Though the ultimate object of the speculators on this occasion, was to connect the eastern and western seas, by means of a navigable canal, their first attention was only directed up the Tyne as far as Haydon bridge. Five engineers were employed—Messrs. Chapman, Jessop, Dodd, Sutcliffe, and Whitworth.

Mr. Chapman proposed to carry a canal on the north-side of the Tyne, from the upper part of Newcastle to Haydon bridge, a distance of thirty-one miles and three quarters, on one level, and to connect it with the Tyne at its east end, by means of a staircase of locks. The rise here from high-water, at neap tides, to the level of the canal, would have been about two hundred feet. It was thought that the final out-let of it would be best in the neighbourhood of Stockbridge, in Pandon. These locks, and "the projecting steep land," near the church of St. John-lee, were the main difficulties he had to contend with. Mr. Jessop and himself decidedly preferred this line, and calculated the

* Marshall's Review, p. 51.

† Jour. of the House of Com. Vol. XVI. Brand Vol. I. p. 30.

the expence of executing it at 129,494l. The total expence of extending it to Maryport, in Cumberland, they thought would not exceed 355,067l.; and would bring in an average rent of 30,000l. a year.*

Mr. Dodd's plan was to carry a canal on the south-side of the Tyne, from Stella to Hexham; and to form *towing paths* of ballast from Stella to Newcastle, by the river side. From Stella "I propose," says he, "a rise of eight feet eight inches at each lock, twelve of which will carry us through the whole line to Hexham." The expence of making this line he calculated at 35,718l. 10s. 2d. and its annual profit at 9,925l. 15s. 2d.† In Messrs. Chapman and Jessop's survey of this line, the expence of forming a canal on it is estimated at 69,081l.

Mr. Sutcliffe agreed with Mr. Dodd in commencing the canal at Stella, but differed widely from him respecting the course it should take, and the expence of finishing it. His calculation of its cost from Stella to Hexham, is 89,795l. 7s.; and for making it complete between Newcastle and Haydon Bridge, 162,059l. 14s. 6d.‡

Mr. Whitworth was requested by the promoters of the affair to survey both lines, and candidly to report to which he gave the preference. His words are, "the line upon the south-side has certainly very much the advantage. But I think that neither Mr. Chapman's nor Mr. Dodd's is eligible; indeed, I think they are scarcely practicable. Mr. Sutcliffe has set down plenty of money to do it well."§ Sutcliffe estimated the expence of a canal on the north side at 183,450l. 15s. 6d. "But he is rather extravagant in his ideas, and may be a little partial to the line on the south of the Tyne, as Mr. Chapman may be to that on the north of the river."‖

Mr. Thompson, of Sheepwash, published "Observations on the

* Chap. and Jessop's Reports. † Dodd's Reports, pp. 28, 31, 48, 54.
‡ Sutcl. First Rep. p. 45. Second Rep. p. 55.
§ Whit. N. Rep. pp. 8, 9. ‖ Whit. S. Rep. p. 14.

the most Advantageous Line," which he contended would be obtained by proceeding from Barras bridge to the third milestone, on Newcastle town-moor, and there to branch eastward to North Shields, and northward to Prestwick. From Prestwick he recommended the line to proceed by Ponteland, Stamfordham, Ryal, Bingfield, Chollerton, over North Tyne to Humshaugh, till it join the branch recommended by Mr. Chapman near Warden. He also proposed to make a canal from Prestwick, down the Blythe to the sea; and from Hartford bridge to Morpeth, and from thence by the Till to the Tweed.*

Mr. Chapman's north side plan finally met with the largest patronage, and a bill was brought forward in parliament, for authority to put it into execution: but as there had been so much difference of opinion about the matter amongst the engineers, and petitions against it were presented by four gentlemen, near whose family seats it would have passed, by sixteen other proprietors of land, and by the minister, and eighty-two inhabitants of the parish of St. Johnlee, the bill was withdrawn.

After a repose of fifteen years Mr. Dodd's plan was revived in 1810. Preparations have been again made for approaching parliament with a bill, for authority to make a canal from Stella to Hexham; but we fear the commerce of the country is still too confined to allow that ample and vigorous patronage, which so large an undertaking demands. Mr. Dodd's present proposition is to raise a capital, by shares of one hundred pounds each, of 106,000l. The greatest possible cost he estimates at 105,800l.; and the annual produce of the canal, he supposes, cannot be less than 22,267l. 9s. 10d.

RIVERS.—St. Bede is the first author that mentions the river TYNE.† The origin and meaning of its name have been much disputed. La Tyne, rivière formée de deux rivières—*Ty*, deux; *Tyn*, doble. On a étendu par abus le nom Tine à chacune

* Thomp. Obser. pp. 12, 18, &c. † Ecc. Hist. Smith's Ed. p. 183.

eaue des rivières qui la forment.* "The two Tynes are rivers of the Ottadini."† Harrison thinks it was in old time called the Alan, but does not mention his authority.‡

The South Tyne rises behind Cross-Fell, and in its course receives the Nent, the Tippal, and the Allen. The North Tyne commences on the borders of Scotland, and receives the Reed below Bellingham. The two branches join near Nether Warden, and are afterwards augmented by the Dill or Devils-beck, near Corbridge, by the Derwent (which rises above the Abbey of Blanchland) near Lemmington, and by several smaller streams. In the time of William Rufus it was proved that this river had, ab omni tempore, been the march between the county of Northumberland and the bishopric of Durham; and that a moiety of it belonged to each county, while the middle of it was common to all ships and boats. Its fisheries are mentioned under the reign of Henry the First, and were long celebrated for the excellence of their salmon; so late as the year 1761, not less than two hundred and sixty were caught at one draught at Newburne; and in 1775, two hundred and seventy-five were landed at one draught at the Low Lights, near the mouth of the river. The fisheries are now nearly destroyed, a circumstance to be attributed entirely to the locks at Bywell, which prevent the salmon passing up to the shallow streams in the breeding season.

The *Conservatorship of the Tyne* appears to have been invested in the corporation of Newcastle, since the time of Edward the Second, though repeated commissions have since been granted to strengthen that power. Their jurisdiction extends to high-water mark on both sides of the river, from the sea to Hedwin streams, above Newburne, which distance is annually surveyed, on Ascension Day, by the mayor and river jury, in their barges. The spring tides rise about eighteen feet at the mouth of the river, and about eleven feet and a half at Newcastle.

* Bullet's Mem. sur la Lang Celt. Vol. I. p. 546.

† Desc. of England, Pref. to Holl. Chron. p. 152. ‡ Ric. Cor. 54.

Camden thought that the TWEED was the Taum estuarium of Tacitus;* and Mr. Horsley says, "between the Humber and the Firth of Forth, no rivers are mentioned by Ptolomy but Vedra and Alaunus. The latter of which I take to be the Tweed, into which river Allon, in Scotland, does run; and the other is most probably the Tyne, whose situation answers exactly."† The names of British rivers have great affinity, and are commonly descriptive of the colour or properties of their waters. Derwent, Allen, &c. from the frequency of their occurrence, were certainly significant epithets. It is absurd to suppose that either of these rivers lost its name while the British language was spoken by the people that inhabited their extensive banks; and more absurd to suppose that the Saxons should change their names from one British term to another. This river rises in Tweedale, in Scotland, at a place called Tweed's Cross,‡ "out of a faire well standing in the mosse of an hill called Airstane, or Hairstane."§ It receives the Ettrick, Leader, and Tiviot, in its progress through Scotland. "At a litle broke, cawlyd Ryden Burne, the whiche partithe England and Scotland by este and west, and comithe in to Twede, the great streame of Twede towchithe on the Englyshe grownde as a limes betwene Scotland and it." The Till is the last stream of importance that enters it. It is an estuary at Norham, about seven miles from the sea. Its banks are exceedingly fertile, and it may with great truth be styled—"fair river, broad and deep."

The yearly rental of the salmon fisheries on the Tweed is 15,766l. The average number of boxes of raw salmon sent to London, packed in ice, in the years 1806 and 1807, was 8,445, of eight stone each, which, at sixteen pounds per stone, is 54,000 pounds. If there be added the value of what is kitted for exportation, and what is sold fresh or dried in the neighbourhood, the amount cannot be less than 60,000 pounds a year.‖

If

* Brit. Ed. 1590, p. 656. † Brit. Rom.

‡ Fuller's Hist. of Berw. p. 419. § Lel. quoted by Harrison, p. 150.

‖ Bailey's Sur. of Durh. p. 47.

If locks were erected here, as on the Tyne and other rivers, the supply would gradually cease.

'The Till riseth not farre from the head of Uswale, in the Cheviot Hilles, where it is called *Brennich*, whereof the kingdom of Bernicia did some time take the name.* It keeps the name of Bremish till it has passed by Wooler. The *Bovent*, celebrated for its beautiful pebbles,† joins the Glen near Kirknewton; and, after passing through Glendale, by Copeland Castle, their united streams join the Till. This river, to the heads of its smallest branches, but especially between the Glen and the Tweed, swarms with trout.

Harrison says, "the ALNE is a pretie riueret, the head whereof riseth in the hills west of Alnham towne, and is called by Ptolomie Celnius. Between Ailmouth and Wooden it sweepeth into the ocean." Richard of Cirencester mentions Alauna as one of the Ottadine rivers; and Alnham, Hulne, Alnwick, Alnmouth, places on its banks, derive their names from it.

The COQUET rises amongst the Cheviot Hills. "For a certen space of miles it dividith Cuquedale and Ridesdale."‡ Near Allenton church it is joined by the Allen, which issues out of Kidland. "The Hoc, as I think it is called, cometh from the woodland and hilly soil, by Allington, and falleth into the same, west of Parkend."§ This river enters the sea near Warkworth, where there is a fishery for salmon-trout and gilse. By a recent alteration of its channel, it seems to be preparing itself for being a harbour for ships of light tonnage. Its banks, especially from Rothbury to the sea, are well wooded, and afford a great variety of interesting landscape. It is much frequented by anglers; and its sand-beds have been celebrated for their beautiful pebble-crystals, pale carnelians, chrysolithes, and agates. Bremenium, Cocudena, or Coqueda, and Alauna, occur together in Ravenna's Chorography.

The WANS, "a praty ryver," vulgarly called Wants-beck,

 rises

* Har. Desc. of Eng. p. 152. † Wallis, I. 90.

‡ Lel. Itin. Vol. VII. pt. i. fol. 73. § Har. Desc. of Eng. p. 151.

rises near Sweethope, above Kirkwhelpington. At Mitford it meets the Font, and passing through the fine meadows of the valley of Newminster and the old woods of Bothal, it enters the sea at Cambois. The tide flows up it to the bridge of Sheepwash. Dr. Akenside wrote the first copy of his Pleasures of Imagination at Morpeth, and in the edition of that poem, in 1770, compliments this river with this apostrophe:—

> "O, ye Northumbrian shades, which overlook
> The rocky pavement and the mossy falls,
> Of solitary Wans-beck, limpid stream;
> How gladly I recall your well-known seats,
> Beloved of old, and that delightful time
> When all alone, for many a summer's day,
> I wandered through your calm recesses, led
> In silence, by some powerful hand unseen."

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE.

The proofs that Newcastle was a Roman station are conclusive. Coins of Trajan, Hadrian, Faustina, Lucius Verus, and Antoninus Pius, were found in the piers of the bridge here, after it was thrown down by the great flood, in 1771.* In digging the foundations of the new county court-house, in 1810, a well of Roman masonary was discovered on the edge of the bank. It is near the centre of the court-house. To raise it to the desired level, a very strong wall, in the form of a trapezium, and enclosing about ten square yards, had been constructed on framework, of beams of oak, fixed perpendicularly and horizontally into the river bank, and filled up, within and without, with clean blue clay. The beams of oak were remarkably fresh, and near the bottom of two of them, that were placed perpendicularly, stags horns, of great size and thickness, were found. Between the factitious and original bank was a thick layer of ferns, grasses, brambles, and twigs of birch and oak, firmly matted

* Pennant's North. Tour. III. 313. Brand. I. 38.

matted together. Near the north-east corner of the court-house were found two Roman altars, one bearing an illegible inscription, the other plain. There were also large quantities of Roman pottery, two copper coins of Antoninus Pius, and a part of the shaft of a Corinthian pillar, richly fluted and of exquisite workmanship. Near the altars too were found a small axe, a concave stone, bearing marks of fire, split, and with thin flakes of lead in the fissures; also fragments of mill-stones, and foundations of walls, firm and impenetrable as the hardest rock. With one of these walls the eastern wall of the late Moot Hall has the same breadth, bearing, and manner of building; it has also in it a low semicircular door-way, walled up, and the outside of it is faced with tessellated ashlar-work, bearing every mark of Roman masonry.

The end of Hadrian's Vallum was here, and the bridge and place called after him, *Pons Ælii*, or the Ælian Bridge. He belonged to the Ælian family, and thence was named Ælius Hadrianus. He rebuilt Jerusalem, and styled it Ælia Capitolina; and called the games he instituted at Pincum, in Mæsia, Ælia Pincensia. On Solway Firth, at the other extremity of his vallum, were stationed the first cohort of Ælian marines; at Burdoswald the first Ælian cohort of Dacians; and at Halton Chesters the Sabinian wing, named so from Sabinia, Hadrian's wife. Two coins were also struck in his reign, to commemorate the building of two bridges; one of which had seven, the other five arches. The Pons Ælius at Rome has exactly five arches, and for that with seven no place can be so well assigned as this.*

'The Pict's Wall,' says Grey,† 'came over Neather Deane bridge, and so along into Pandon.' Mr. Horsley was of opinion, that the east wall of the Roman station here ran at right angles from this wall, through St. George's porch in St. Nicholas' church; that each side of the station measured six chains, and

* Piranesi's Collection; and Vaillant, tom. I. p. 68. quoted by Brand Vol. I. p 37.

† Chor. p. 9.

that the vallum of Hadrian was its southern rampire.* It has, however, been found that the Pict's Wall passed near the great west door of St. Nicholas' church; and the recent discoveries about the castle prove that the station extended as far as the brink of the river, and that the east wall of the late Moot Hall is beyond all doubt the eastern wall of the station.

From the desertion of Britain by the Romans, to the time of the Norman Conquest, there is no certain mention of this place under any other name than MONKCHESTER, and under that only once. "In the year 1074, three monks, providentially sent out of the province of Mercia into that of Northumberland, came to York, and besought Hugh, the son of Baldric, who was then viscount, to give them a guide to a place called Munkeceastre, that is, the City of the Monks, which is now called Newcastle. Being conducted to this place, they stayed at it for a time; but when they could find there no vestiges of the ancient church of Christ, they went to Jarrow, then retaining little of its former splendour, and, after inspecting its numerous monastic edifices, and half-ruined churches, they began to repair it, under the liberal patronage of Walcher, Bishop of Durham. The name of the oldest was Aldwin, of the second Ealfwin, and of the third Rinfrid. By these three persons the monasteries of Northumberland were restored."†

"The town of PAMPEDON is very antient. I find of the kings of Northumberland that had a house in it, which we now call Pandon Hall."‡ This place was undoubtedly coeval with Monkchester. It was in the manor of Byker, and the inheritance of Ladararia, wife of Robert de Byker, who conceded it to the crown prior to 1299; in which year Edward the First granted it to the town of Newcastle, for its increase, improvement, and security. About this time Newcastle began to be invested with walls; and on the north side of Pandon the Roman wall appears to have been repaired for that purpose; for, says Grey,

* Brit. Rom. p. 133. Warb. Vall. Rom. p. 30. † Sim. Dun. p. 206.

‡ Grey's Chor.

Grey, a tower, similar to those of the Roman wall, remaineth whole in the town-wall in Pampdon, older than the rest of the towers, and after another fashion, standing out of the wall. 'As old as Pandon Gate,' was a proverb here, in Leland's time. A curious antique signet ring was found near Pandon Hall;* and Roman coins were lately taken out of an old wall near Stockbridge, in this place.

In the autumn of the year 1080, King William sent his son Robert into Scotland against Malcolm. He marched as far as Egglesbreth, but finding no opposition, he returned, and in his way built the *New Castle* upon Tyne.† Though there is some difference among the historians concerning the precise date of the building of this castle, it is generally allowed that it was done by Curthose, at the command of his father, and that it was erected upon the site of some ancient fort, which caused it to be called the New Castle, by which name both itself and the town that surrounds it have ever since been denominated. Fourteen years had scarcely elapsed after its building, till Rufus had his arms to employ against it; for, in the memorable revolt of Mowbray, the last of the ancient line of the Earls of Northumberland, is was one of the fortresses seized by the rebels.‡ Many of the most powerful adherents of the earl were taken here;§ and himself, with thirty soldiers, who had escaped from Bamborough, under promise of assistance from the garrison of Newcastle, were betrayed and seized by the king.

The great tower was repaired by Henry the Second, at the expence of 125l. 13s. 6d. King John made a fosse round its walls, and strengthened it with certain new works on the brink of the river; and, as appears from his charter, indemnified the persons whose houses stood in the way of these improvements, by a remittance of 100 shillings from the escheat rents he had in the town. The crown also, in 1248, expended 514l. 15s. 11d. in building a new gate; and two years after laid

* Stukely's It. Bor. p. 64 † Sim. Dun. 211.

‡ In 1174. Braud I. 146. § Bourne, p. 117.

out thirty-six pounds and eight-pence in repairing another gate. "At the time of the battle of Bannonkburn the castle and all the edifices about it were in good repair;" but in the course of twenty-one years "the great tower, and all the lesser ones of the said castle, the great hall, with the king's chamber adjoining it, together with divers other chambers below, in the queen's mantle and the buttry-cellar and pantry, the king's chapel within the castle, a certain house beyond the gate, which is called the Checker House, with the bridges within and without the gate, with three gates and one postern, are 300l. worse than they were. They say also, that there are in the custody of Roger Manduit, late high-sheriff, 420 fother of lead. They say also, that it was thought highly necessary that the Baron Heron, of Haddeston, the Baron of Walton, Lord Robert of Clifford, of the New Place, chief lord of the barony of Gaugie, the lords of the barony of and Delviston, that the Lord of Werk upon Tweed, the lord of the barony of Bolbeck, alias Bywell, the Baron of Bothal, and lastly, the Baron of Delaval, should build each of them a house within the liberties of the castle, for the defence of it. The house of the Baron of Werk was built over the postern."*

In the hall of this castle John Baliol did homage to Edward the First for the crown of Scotland;† and David Bruce was a prisoner here under John Copeland.‡ Though it was in the possession of the incorporated company of taylors from the year 1605 to 1616, yet it had not entirely lost its ancient strength under their auspices; for by a few repairs, and by planting cannon on the top of the tower, it was enabled, under the gallant Sir John Marley, then mayor of Newcastle, to hold out several days after the town surrendered to the Scots, in 1644. §

Twelve

* Bourne, p. 118. † Knighton, p, 2469.

‡ Rymer, Vol. V. p. 727.

§ The Scotch army summoned Newcastle to surrender in February, 1644; but after three weeks fruitless stay it crossed the Tyne and marched

Twelve of the ancient barons of Northumberland paid castle-guard rents and cornage to this castle. These payments originated in the tenures of their estates, which were granted to them by the Conqueror and other kings, on the condition of their performing castle-guard with a certain number of men, for some specified time. When these services became unnecessary they were commuted for annual rents;* which, together with the tenure by knights' service, were abolished in the time of Charles the Second.

Alexander Stevenson, Esq. a page of the king's bed-chamber, in 1618, obtained a lease of fifty years, at forty shillings a year, "of all that old castle of the town of Newcastle upon Tyne, and the scyte and herbage of the said castle, as well within the walls

marched to Sunderland. During this attack, Sandgate and the other suburbs were set on fire by the besieged. The combined armies of the Earl of Callender and General Levin, however, commenced the siege in good earnest on the fourteenth of August, in the same year. Callender's head quarters were at Usworth, but his operations carried on in Gateshead, and his attacks opposed from a battery constructed on the brow of the Castle Garth, and afterwards called the Halfmoon battery. Levin had his station at Elswick, the colliers of which place and of Benwell, with the country people, to the number of 3000, were employed in undermining the walls. The resistance from the town was long and obstinate; but after the mines were ready for exploding, and repeated summons to surrender were proudly refused, on the nineteenth of October the besiegers opened all their batteries, and, with a furious and general assault, rushed to the breaches, upon which the garrison in the castle played incessantly with scattered shot. Though the loss of the Scotch was great they resolutely advanced, and after two hours of fierce contention upon the breaches, they forced their first entry near the Close Gate. The dispute continued for some time in the streets; but the assailants pouring in on all sides, they soon became masters of the walls and the town. The mayor and a few of his associates retreated to the castle, which, with an equal share of obstinacy and gallantry, they defended to the twenty-second of October, when they capitulated, and surrendered themselves prisoners of war. Bourne, p. 232. Rushw. Coll. Pt. iii. Vol. II. p. 516. Thur. State Pap. Vol. I. p. 42, &c.

* Grose's Ant. pref. p. 3.

walls of the same as without." This lease fell, by purchase, into the hands of the corporation. When they petitioned the king for its renewal a counter-petition was presented by the magistrates of Northumberland, under the plea that a grant of it would be more proper to be given to that county than to Newcastle. In the midst of the dispute, Lord Gerrard had access to the king, and, on August third, 1664, obtained a lease of it for ninety-nine years, in reversion, determinable on three lives, and at the old rent. After a great struggle, and at the expence of six hundred pounds, the corporation, in 1683, by the king's warrant, succeeded in their object. Lord Gerrard, then Earl of Macclesfield, however, commenced a suit against them, which concluded in an abrogation of this warrant, and an injunction awarded to stay the proceedings of the corporation against the earl and his tenants. For a fine of one hundred and fifty pounds, and an annual payment of one hundred chaldron of coals to Chelsea hospital, a fifty years' lease of these premises was granted, July the second, 1736, to George Liddell, Esq.; and in 1777, they were demised from the crown to Henry, Lord Ravensworth, for the term of forty years and a half, from July thirteen, 1786, on the same terms as they had been enjoyed by Colonel Liddell. They were sold by the Ravensworth family, in 1779, to J. C. Turner, Esq.

Henry the Fourth made Newcastle a county of itself; and, though his charter on this occasion makes no reservation of the castle to the county of Northumberland, it appears to have been considered, in 1447, in a similar situation with the castles of Chester, Colchester, Norwich, Worcester, and the Tower of London, independent of the corporation of its own town. By a charter of the thirty-first of Elizabeth, on account of this "old and ruined castle being" a refuge for wicked and disorderly people flying from the justice of the magistrates of Newcastle, it was placed under their jurisdiction in matters of common law, and in this situation it still continues. As persons not free of this town exercised their trades within its precincts, many

many attempts were made by the corporation to detach it wholly from the county of Northumberland, and subject it to the full rigour of their charters; but in this they never succeeded.

Though repairs and alterations, occasioned by sieges, changes in modes of warfare, and common decay, have robbed this edifice of all the delicacy of its infant features, it is still strongly marked with the character of Norman architecture. It anciently consisted of a square tower, and other necessary buildings, surrounded by an outer and an inner wall; its whole site occupying little more than three acres.

Nothing remains of the *outer wall* but the main entrance, called the Black Gate, a postern at the head of the castle stairs, and certain fragments by which its site can only be imperfectly traced. It had two other posterns, one facing the side, and the other opening into Bailey Gate, both of which have been destroyed. The *Black Gate* was built, as we have seen, in the time of Henry the Third, and cost upwards of 514l. Its arch, extending to the gloomy length of thirty-six feet, is low and narrow, and flanked by two lofty circular towers. Besides its iron doors it had two portcullises, and a draw-bridge within and without. The eastern tower is still very perfect towards its base; but the rest of this structure is either shut-up with confused masses of building, or much deformed by conversion into dwelling-houses.

The *inner* wall extended from the Black Gate around the great tower, and again joined the outer wall north of Bailey Gate. It had a large gateway through it in the west, and two posterns, walled up, in the south side; all of which were pulled down in 1811. The *Great Tower* is about eighty feet high, sixty-two by fifty-four feet square on the outside, and its walls nearly fourteen feet thick. The great door on the east is approached by a flight of steps to the second story: this door and several of the windows have been tastefully ornamented with zig-zag work. In the sides of the tower, where no windows have

have interfered, rooms have been gained out of the walls, or galleries have passed from one side, or story, to another. There is no appearance of fire-places in any part of it, but in the rooms in the walls. The *dungeon*, time out of mind, has been used as the county prison for Northumberland, during the time of the assizes. It has two doors, a triple-grated loop-hole, and measures twenty-five feet and a half by twenty feet three quarters. Its arch is sprung from a hollow pillar, which has conveyed water from a well in the south-east corner of the tower, and twenty-one feet from the ground. Adjoining the dungeon, on the east side, is a *chapel* of most beautiful and exquisite architecture; and above it, at the head of the outer stairs, is a small room, about thirteen feet by twelve, which, from its style of building, seems to have been used as an *oratory*. A very bold and spacious circular staircase ascends from the dungeon to the top of the tower. Above the dungeon there appears to have been five stories, from the fourth of which the tower has been raised from its original to its present height. The corporation purchased this building in 1810, and intend to throw an arched roof over it, and to pull down all the old houses built against it.

The assizes for Northumberland, prior to 1644, were held in the Common or Moot Hall, "within the inner wall of the Castle Garth." * The building lately occupied for that purpose had been the chapel of the garrison before the castle was dismantled. Its eastern wall was of strong Roman masonry; another part of it was purely Norman; its roof was supported with two rows of heavy Gothic arches; and its front had square windows, with stone mullions; and the arms of England quartered with those of Scotland were cut in a stone over its entrance.

The design for the *New Courts* was furnished by Mr. Stokoe, of Newcastle, architect, and is now executing under his direction. Their foundation stone was laid by Earl Percy, in July,

* Brand, Vol. I. pp. 156, 158, notes.

July, 1810, at which time his father the Duke of Northumberland, presented the county with three thousand pounds towards expences in building them. Their figure is a double oblong square, forty-eight yards long, and twenty-four wide. The ground-floor is partly below the surface, and consists of cells and other apartments for the criminals during the time of the assizes: these are all covered with strong Roman arches. Above them, in the centre of the building, is an entrance-hall, and grand-jury room, on each side of which are the courts, each measuring sixty feet by thirty-five, and behind them apartments for the judges, juries, witnesses, &c. Over these are offices for the gaoler, clerk of the peace, and other officers; and over the grand-jury room, an apartment for the council. The north elevation has a Grecian Doric portico of four pillars, where is the door to the common hall that leads to the courts and grand-jury room: at the extremities on this side are the entrances for the public, who stand on rows of steps rising behind each other. The south elevation is taken from the Parthenon in Athens, having a Grecian Doric portico of six pillars, each five feet in diameter, and twenty-eight feet high. The foundations are laid on strong clay, and constructed of very large blocks of freestone. The whole of the masonry is indeed of a very superior kind, the centre of the walls being executed with squared ashlars, and their outside finely polished.

From Harding's Chronicle and the charter of King John, it appears, that the town had been defended with *walls* before the time of Edward the First, and their testimony is strengthened by the remains of a strong barrier of earth remaining to this day behind the priory of the Black Friars.

Leland, and a manuscript in the Cotton Library, cited by Mr. Brand, assign their origin to the following circumstance: "In the reign of Edward the First, a very rich citizen of Newcastle was carried off from that town into Scotland, and being at last ransomed, he began to enclose Newcastle with a very firm wall; and the rest of the inhabitants following his example, he

he finished the undertaking in the reign of Edward the Third."* In 1280, the Black Friars obtained royal permission to have a postern through the 'new wall' which passed through the middle of their garden; and in 1307, the Carmelites on Wallknoll, got a grant to remove to the house of the order of the Penance of Jesus, because 'the wall newly built' passed through a part of their premises. As soon as they were completed the town was divided into twenty-four wards, according to the number of gates and round towers upon them. The free burgesses at that time were all soldiers. A night watch of one hundred persons was constantly traversing these bulwarks in the reign of Henry the Fourth. "The strength and magnificens of the waulling of this towne far passith all the waulles of the cities of England, and most of the townes of Europa."† They are said to have borne a striking likeness to the walls of Avignon. We wonder not at Leland's admiration of this place, when we consider the strength and beauty of the castle, the fine Gothic architecture of the walls, the feudal splendour of the noblemen's houses, the number and beauty of the monasteries and churches, and the wealth of the corporation, and all these in the full glory of their perfection. The whole circumference of the walls is 2740 yards.‡ The fosse around them is called the King's Dykes; it was sixty-six feet broad, but is now filled up.

These walls had seven tremendous *gates*, and seventeen *round towers*; "between every one of which were, for the most part, two watch towers, made square with the effigies of men cut in stone upon the tops of them, as though they were watching."§ The names of the gates were in order as follows:—Close Gate, Postern Gate, West Gate, New Gate, Pilgrim-street Gate, Pandon Gate, and Sand Gate. There was also a gate in Carpenter's Tower, another at the north end of the Tyne bridge, and several posterns and water gates. None of them remain at present but West Gate and New Gate. Leland calls the West Gate

* Cot. MS. translated. Lel. It. Vol. V. fol. 103. † Ib. f. 104.
‡ Hutton's plan. § Bourne, p. 17.

Gate "a mightie strong thinge of four wards and an iron gate." It is said to have been built by the munificent Roger Thornton, "who at the fyrst was very poore, and, as the people report, was a pedlar; and of him to this day they reherse this ryme:—

> In the Westgate came *Thornton* in,
> With a happen hapt in a ram's skynn."*

A part of it has been pulled down, and the rest is under sentence to suffer as soon as the company, who have their hall above it, can be accommodated with a new situation. New Gate is used as the town's prison.

In our account of the station Pons Ælii, we have hinted that *Newcastle bridge* was built by Hadrian. Several of the piers of the old bridge were so strong that they could not be taken down without the aid of gunpowder. They had been built, as Mr. Pennant observes,† without springs for arches, a manner of building used by the Romans: witness the bridge built over the Danube at Severin. This mode of building was well calculated for expedition. After projections of stone had been made over the piers as far as was consistent with strength, the remaining space was traversed with beams of timber and paved upon. In one of these piers a parchment was discovered, with old characters upon it very fresh; but on being exposed to the air they disappeared, and the parchment mouldered away. Brand and Pennant have mentioned several Roman coins that were found in them, to which may be added, one inscribed round the head, IMP. CAE. NERVAE TRAIANO. AVG. GER. DAC. P. M. TR. P. COS. V. P.P.; and another, ANTONINVS AVG. PIVS P. P. TR. P. COS. IIII.

A bridge existed here in the time of Henry the Second: it was burnt down in 1248. After this, lands were granted to be held by the payment of one plank annually to Tyne bridge. A great flood swept a part of it away, in 1339, which occasioned 120 persons to be drowned. Grey says it had many houses and

* Hearn's Lel. It. Vol. V. p. 114. † Tour in Scot. Vol. III. p. 315.

and shops, and three towers upon it; "one tower on the south side, the second in the middle, and the third in Newcastle side, lately built upon an arch in the bridge, used for a magazine for the towne."* In 1770, Bishop Trevor repaired with stone one of the south arches, which had anciently been a draw-bridge, and was at that time constructed of large beams of timber covered with planks and paved upon. The arches of this bridge were some of them Gothic and others scheme arches; they had no regular decrease from the middle to the ends; and the passage over them was very narrow and crowded with houses.†

On Saturday, September seventeen, 1771, a deluge of rain fell in the western mountains. The Tyne suddenly overflowed its banks, and marked its progress with most terrible devastation. It began to rise at Newcastle about eleven o'clock in the night, and at seven in the morning was at its height. At three o'clock the arches of this bridge were filled up, and, about four, three of them on the Gateshead side were forced down, and seven persons were drowned. Above the bridge the river was seven feet four inches higher than it usually is at good spring tides; but at Shields, though great damage was done to the shipping there, the sea being kept at a low level by the neap tides, this flood did not exceed the common height of spring tides. A vessel took up at sea, near Tinmouth, a wooden cradle, with a child in it, which was alive and well! Three ships were stranded on Newcastle quay.

The *new bridge* is three hundred feet long, has nine arches, and cost upwards of thirty thousand pounds. The architects consulted in building it were Messrs. Smeaton, Wooler, and Mylne, the first of whom built the Eddystone light-house, and the last the bridge at Blackfriars, London. It was finished in 1781. But as it was unfortunately built too narrow, its width has since that time been extended to twenty-four feet, by an ingenious contrivance of Mr. Stephenson, architect. He constructed

* Chorog. p. 9. † Hutton's plan.

Engraved, by W. Byrne, from a drawing, by J.C. Smith, taken a sketch, by W. Tombleson.

For the Beauties of England & Wales, E.W.B. del.

VIEW IN NEWCASTLE,
(with the Bridge, New Exchange, Moot Hall &c.)
Northumberland.

constructed his additional width to the arches, on each side, upon the buttresses of the piers, and cramped them to the former work with large bars of iron, reaching from one side to the other. It is at present a structure of great strength, convenience, and beauty.

On the revival of the monastic life in these parts, Newcastle soon became famous for its convents. There was a Benedictine nunnery here so early as 1086, in which, according to Fordun, after Malcolm and his son were slain before the castle of Alnwick, Agas, the mother of the Queen of Scotland, and Christiana, her sister, took the veil.

While some of the Scotch historians assign the origin of the *Nunnery* of St. Bartholomew to David, King of Scotland, Speed contends that it was founded by Henry the Second, and an authority in the Bodlean Library ascribes it to a Baron de Hilton.* In the time of Bishop Hatfield it was miserably poor, both in money and morals, on which account it was put under the direction of the priest of the church of St. Nicholas. It resigned on the third of January, 1540, when its annual value was 37l. 4s. 2d.† It was situated in the field behind the Nun Gate, about which some remains of it may still be traced.

The house of the *Black Friars* was founded about A. D. 1251, by Sir Peter Scott, the first mayor of Newcastle, and his son, Sir Nicholas, who had been three times a bailiff of the town. It was in the church of this house that Edward Baliol did homage to Edward the Third,‡ and alienated to him the five Scottish counties next adjoining to the borders of England. At the dissolution this house consisted of a prior and twelve friars, and had a yearly income of 2l. 19s. 4d. It was granted to the mayor and burgesses of Newcastle, and by them, in

* Brand, I. 204. † Stev. Cont. of Dug. Mon. Vol. II. p. 25.

‡ "Rym. Fœd. T. IV. 616. Ypod. Neust. p. 511. Walt. Hemmingford, Vol. II. p. 277, &c. &c." Brand, II. 409. Knighton says, Edward held a parliament at York, to which place Baliol came and did homage to the English king, p. 2565.

1552, to nine of the mysteries, or ancient trades of the town, seven of whom have their halls in it to this day. Enough of it remains to give a sufficient idea of its original state.

The priory of *Augustine Friars* is supposed to have been founded by William Lord Ross, Baron of Wark upon Tweed, sometime before the year 1291. Margaret, the eldest daughter of Henry the Seventh, being affianced to the King of Scotland, and on her way thither "was brought and conveyed to the Freres Austyns, where she was lodged, and honnestly received by those revested with the crosse."* "The kings of England kept house in it when they came with an army royall against Scotland; and since the suppression of the monasteries, made a magazine and storehouse for the north parts. Now of late that princely fabrick is demolished, and laid level with the ground."† It was surrendered on the ninth of January, 1539, when it consisted of a prior, seven brethren, and three novices. A few door-ways and old walls of it may still be seen in the workhouse for All-Saints' parish; and its whole site is occupied by hospitals, schools, and other public buildings. Some remains of it are still visible in the general hospital or workhouse of the town.

The priory of the *Franciscans*, or Grey Friars, owed its foundation to the Carliols, a family of wealthy merchants, before the year 1300. The English province had seven custodies of this order, whereof the custody of Newcastle, containing nine convents, was one. At the dissolution this house consisted of a prior, eight friars, and two novices. "It was a very fair thing, and was granted, in the thirty-sixth of King Henry the Eighth, to the Earl of Essex and James Rockby."‡

Hugh of Newcastle flourished in this convent; and the celebrated *Duns Scotus* took the order of St. Francis here, as did also *Friar Martin*, of Alnwick. Hugh was a zealous defender of Scotus against Aquinas, and one of the fourteen about his tomb.§ Martin acquired notable knowledge in philosophy and divinity

* Brand, II. 433. † Grey's Chor. 13. ‡ Tan. Not. § Bale.

divinity at Oxford. He resided chiefly in this monastery, and died and was buried in it. The houses of this order, in the wardenship of Newcastle, were Dundee, Dumfries, Haddington, Berwick, Roxburgh, Richmond, in Yorkshire, Carlisle, Hartlepool, Newcastle.*

The *Carmelites* had their first house in this town on Wall Knoll, from which they removed in 1307, on the plea of encroachment made upon their premises by the new wall of the town. They obtained, on this occasion, a grant from Edward the Third, of the house of the Friars of *the Penance of Jesus*,† on condition that they supported Walter de Carlton, the only surviving brother of that order, as became his rank, and for the remainder of his life. This house was at the foot of Westgate Street. John Dynley, born of a good family in Newcastle, and a learned writer, flourished in it about the year 1450. At the suppression there were in it a prior, seven brethren, and two novices; and it was then valued at 9l. 11s. 4d. Its church was dedicated to St. Mary. The whole of its premises were granted, in 1546, to Sir Richard Gresham and Richard Billingford. Some remains of windows and arched door-ways may still be seen in the houses erected on its site.

The *Hospital* of the *Trinitarians*, on Wall Knoll, was founded by William de Acton, a burgess of Newcastle, in 1361. He purchased the situation of the White Friars, who had deserted it for several years. The revenues of this society were divided into three portions, one of which was appropriated to their own use, another given to the poor, and the third expended in the liberation of Christians in captivity amongst infidels. They were visited by the master of St. Robert's, at Knaresborough, every year, on Trinity Sunday, on which occasion they were bound to present him with a horse-load of fish; failing him, the mayor and bailiffs of Newcastle

 were

* Stev. Cont. of Dug. Mon. Vol. I. pp. 96, 98, 99.

† They were usually styled Friars of the Sac, and were settled here in 1268. Brand, I. 58.

were their visitors. According to their foundation charter, they were bound "to have ready, at all times, three competent beds for the use of strangers resorting to their house."* The possessions of this house were granted to Sir. R. Gresham and R. Billingford, Gent. in 1546; and thirty-six years after they were conveyed to the corporation of Newcastle, in whose possession they have continued ever since.

The Hospital of St. Mary, in Westgate Street, was founded in Henry the Second's time, by Aselack, of Killinghowe, on a parcel of his own ground, for two friars regular, and a chaplain, to serve God and the poor. Provision was also made in it for the entertainment of poor clergymen and strangers that were travelling.† It appears to have been a cell to the nunnery of St. Bartholomew, and to have had a second foundation, by a charter of Richard the First, at which time its first founder was alive.

An authority,‡ dated A. D. 1546, reports it to have been founded for a master to be continually resident, for a chaplain to say divine service, for six 'bedefolks' in the alms-house, and to lodge poor and buy-faring people, and to bury such as fortuned to die there. Nine chaldron of coals were also to be distributed among poor people, and ten shillings to be given yearly among the bedefolks 'which order is not observed at present.'—Clear yearly value, twenty-nine pounds nine shillings and fourpence. Dr. Davel was master at that time, but not resident; and a priest, who kept the house and orchards, and had five pounds yearly, was the only one 'in hospitalite' at it. Dr. Davel supplied Leland with considerable information respecting this town and its neighbourhood.

Though this house came under the statute for the dissolution of religious houses, the community of Newcastle continued to present a master to the Bishop of Durham, and its revenues were enjoyed, till the time of James the First, who, in consequence of

* Bourne, appendix. † Aselack's charter.
‡ In the Aug. Off. Brand, 78.

of the old charter being lost, granted a new one in 1611. This charter decreed, that it should consist of a master, and six unmarried poor old men, constituting together a body politic in law, and having a common seal.

As the mayor and officers of the town, had, by very ancient usage, been chosen in this hospital, the chancel of its church was converted into the corporation's election room, soon after the year 1585. When the grammar-school of Newcastle was incorporated by Elizabeth, it was removed from a building on the north side of St. Nicholas' churchyard to the hospital of St. Mary, in West Gate, the premises of which continue to this day to be occupied by this seminary of learning and its different masters.

The hospital of St. Mary Magdalen, stood between Vine Lane and Barras bridge, where many vestiges of it remain. It was founded by Henry the First, for a master, brethren, and sisters, who were to receive persons afflicted with the leprosy. "It was founded by reporte, to th' entent ther shoulde be a master, bretherne, and systers, to receyve all suche leprose folks as should fortune to be diseased of that kynde of sickness, and syns that kind of sickeness is abated, it is used for the comforte and helpe of the poore folks of the towne that chaunceth to fall sycke in time of pestilence.*—Yerely valew, nine pounds eleven shillings and fourpence."† According to

 Bourne,

* "In 1717, Newcastle appears to have been visited by a greivous famine and mortality, insomuch, says Bourne, that the quick could hardly bury the dead; and a great corruption of cattle and grass. Some ate the flesh of their own children; and thieves, in prison, devoured those that were newly brought in, and greedily ate them half alive." The plague also raged here in 1625; but its effects were moderate at that time, compared with the merciless desolation it made in 1636. From May the seventh, in that year, to December the thirty-first, 5037 persons died in this town, of this 'tremendous visitation.' It came from Holland, and spread from North Shields to Newcastle. Jeanimson's Newc. Call. &c pp. 2, 196. &c.

† Certif. in the Augm. Office. Brand, I. 427.

Bourne, 'fourteen persons within the house were allowed a room, coals, and eight shillings per month; and fifteen without, some eight shillings per month, some five shillings, and some two shillings and sixpence.'*

King James, in 1611, incorporated this hospital with the chapel of St. Thomas à Becket, on Tyne-bridge, when it was decreed that they should in future consist of a master and three poor and aged unmarried burgesses of Newcastle; that the master should receive one third of their revenues and the remainder be divided amongst the brethren; and that the mayor and common council should be patrons.

The Maison de Dieu, is the only public building marked upon Sandhill, in Speed's plan of Newcastle. It was founded by Roger Thornton, in 1403, for one chaplain, who should also be warden, nine poor men and four women, under the name of the hospital of St. Catharine, called Thornton's hospital.† The son of its founder granted the use of its hall and kitchen "for a young couple when they were married, to make their wedding dinner in, and receive the gifts and offerings of their friends, for at that time houses were not large." Its clear yearly value, in 1535, was eight pounds one penny. Sir Richard Lumley, one of the Thornton family, by the female line, conveyed it to the mayor and burgesses of Newcastle, June the first, 1624. It is occupied as a warehouse.

On the authority of Fordun, and other Scottish historians, it is believed that a monastery for Præmonstratensians was founded here, by David, King of Scotland. This order had lands at Fenham; and an ancient-looking house in Grindon Chare, traditionally called the chapel of St. John, and strongly built of stone, and vaulted; it is supposed to have been their convent. There was also a chapel below the Ouseburn, in the parish of All-Saints, dedicated to St. Lawrence, and founded by one of the Percys, which is said to have been dependent on

* Hist. p. 151. † Monast. Angl. II. 474. Trans. p. 170.

on the priory of St. John of Jerusalem. This chapel and its possessions were granted, in 1549, to the corporation.

A grant was also obtained, in 1364, for founding here a fraternity in honour of the nativity and resurrection of our Lord; but it was repealed in the following year. Authority, too, was given, in 1404, for founding a guild, or fraternity, in honour of St. John the Baptist and St. John the Apostle; but its history is very obscure.

Near Barras bridge, there are remains of a chapel, dedicated to St. James, and supposed to have had connection with 'the lazer-house neighe adjoining.' One of the Earls of Northumberland founded a chapel in honour of St. Lawrence, some part of the ruins of which, may still be seen on St. Lawrence's quay. It was valued at sixty shillings a year, and granted to the corporation by Edward the Sixth. There was also, before the dissolution, a chapel, or oratory, in one of the towers of Newcastle bridge; and in another part of it a hermitage, tenanted by a recluse, who was one of the thirty priests to whom Roger Thornton, by will, gave six marks a year, for singing masses for his soul.

Newcastle is supposed to have anciently been contained within the parish of Gosforth. At present the churches and chapels within it, as well as the chapels of Gosforth and Cramlington, are subject to the mother church of St. Nicholas. The respective limits of the four parishes, into which the town is divided, were marked out in 1220: in 1801, they contained 3276 houses, and 28,924 inhabitants; and in 1811, there were, in the same district, 3146 houses, inhabited by 6461 families, and 27,587 persons.

The church of St. Nicholas was founded by St. Osmund, Bishop of Salisbury, in the time of the Conqueror. Henry the First granted it to the canons of St. Mary, Carlisle; and Hugh Pudsey confirmed the grant, reserving all fruits, oblations, &c. except the great tythes, to the vicar. It was burnt down in 1216. Its revenues in 1296, amounted to 105l. 11s. 8d.; of which 38l. 13s. 4d. was paid to its rector, the Bishop of Carlisle;

the like sum to the prior of Carlisle, 8l. to the prior of Tynemouth, and 20l. 5s. to its vicar, who had to deduct from his portion a pension of thirteen marks to his rector. The structure, as it stands at present, is supposed to have been raised in 1359. On the suppression of the priory, and the creation of the dean and chapter of Carlisle, by Henry the Eighth, a moiety of the rectory of Newcastle was given to that institution. The furniture of this church being in exceeding bad repair a large sum was raised by voluntary contribution, in 1783, to defray the expence of fitting up the chancel with pews. This alteration was necessary; but as Mr. Brand observes, the antiquary must for ever lament the havoc made on this occasion among the funeral monuments. The porch of St. Mary is handsomely fitted up with oak stalls, and till lately was used at matins. St. George's porch, in which the festival of that saint was celebrated, in 1617, was repaired about a century ago by the corporation. There were nine or ten oratories here, the united revenues of which, at the dissolution, were valued at 48l. 4s. 6d. a year. The assizes for Northumberland were held here in 1810 and 1811.

The steeple of this church is very lofty, and its top, which is built in the form of an imperial crown, is a work of admirable lightness and elegance. Its arches and knotted pinnacles in every direction are thrown into lines of great delicacy; and, at four points of view, the light through its centre assumes the form of a well-proportioned wheat-sheaf. This part is supposed to have been added in the time of Henry the Sixth; but its history is very obscure. There is a tradition, that during the siege in 1644, the Scottish general threatened to demolish this steeple, unless the keys of the town were immediately surrendered. The mayor ordered the chief of the Scotch prisoners in the town to be taken to the top of it, and then replied, "our enemies shall either preserve it or be buried in its ruins." This answer had the desired effect.

John Cousins, an alderman of Newcastle, in 1661, bequeathed

queathed sixty folios and forty quartos to the library of this church. In a room called the old library there are several chained books, covered with dust, and in wretched repair; amongst which is the bible of Hexham abbey, beautifully illuminated, and upwards of 600 years old, with a few other manuscripts. In 1763, Walter Blackett, Esq. built a library against the south wall of the chancel, to contain the books of the Rev. Dr. Tomlinson, and other benefactors. This collection is every day open to the public. It is large and valuable, and superintended by a librarian, who has a salary of 25l. a year.

"In the north part of this church," says Grey, "is a shrine of Henry, the Fourth Percy Earle of Northumberland, who was killed by the hands of the rebels, in Yorkshire, gathering up a subsidy; he was buried at Beverly, and this made in memory of him in his owne countrey, he having a house in this towne, and parish, and other noblemen and gentry in those days. '*Orate* pro *anima Henrici Percy* 4. *Northumbriæ, qui per Rebellium manus occubuit*, &c.'" This, with many other funeral monuments, was destroyed by the alterations made in pewing the chancel in 1783; they have, however, been replaced by several elegant productions of art, erected to the memory of Northumberland families.

The origin of the *Chapel* of *St. Thomas à Beckett*, at the bridge-end, is unknown. It existed in 1248. It had two chantries in it. By charter of James the First it was incorporated with the hospital of St. Mary Magdalen; and in 1732, it was repaired, and fitted up, as a chapel of ease to St. Nicholas. "In 1782, the outside of it was hewn over, and a new steeple built, the old one being taken down to make the passage on to the bridge more spacious."*

St. Andrew's Church has so well escaped the ravages of time, war, and fanaticism, as to retain much of its original masonry. The chancel arch is semicircular and ornamented with zig-zag work, in the Norman style. This church is mentioned in

* Account of Newcastle, in 1787, p. 15.

in the Tynemouth chartulary, under the year 1219; and Bourne supposes it was founded by the townsmen and religious houses. There were three chantries in it before the reformation. The chantry dedicated to the Holy Trinity was probably founded by Sir Adam de Athol, who was sheriff of Northumberland in 1383, and was buried in this place under a stone, bearing this inscription: "Hic jacent dominus Adamarus de Atholl miles et domina Maria uxor ejus quæ obiit quarto decimo die mensis —anno domini millesimo tricentesimo——Animarum propitietur." The altar-piece, a high effort of the pencil of Luca Giordana, was presented by Major Anderson.

The date and founder of *St. John's Church* are unknown. It existed in 1286. Though its walls are strongly marked by the hand of time, its architecture evinces no high antiquity. Its windows, and especially the great eastern window, abound with curious specimens of painted glass. It had one chantry dedicated to St. Thomas the Martyr, a second to the Virgin Mary, and a third to the Holy Trinity.—"This," says Grey, "is a pretty little church, commended by an archprelate of this kingdome, because it resembleth much a cross." The wooden spout down which the dove on the day of Pentecost was let to represent the descent of the Holy Ghost, remained here in the beginning of last century. In the cemetry here is a stone inscribed as follows:—

"Here lies the remains of John Cunningham. Of his excellence as a pastoral poet, his works will remain a monument for ages, after this temporary tribute of esteem is in dust forgotten. He died at Newcastle, Sept. 18, 1773, aged 44."

All-Saints' Church. — "I met with an account of the churchyard of All-Hallows, in 1286, which is a plain proof that the church was then in being."* The date of its foundation is, however, extremely uncertain, and its records are few, and no way curious. It had seven chantries at the dissolution. The old building was 167 feet long, and 77 feet wide. Its chancel

* Bourne, p. 88.

chancel was built upon a square and spacious crypt, supported by one pillar in the centre, and had been lighted by windows, which, when Mr. Brand visited it, in 1783, were walled up and greatly below the level of the floor of the late church. Its bells were cast in 1696, out of an equestrian statue of James the Second, which stood upon Sandhill. "This statue was the work of Mr. William Larson, was approved of by Sir Christopher Wren, and cost the town 800l. It was thrown into the Tyne by the mob, in 1688.

The present structure was built by authority of an act of parliament, passed in 1783, and after a design of Mr. Stephenson, architect. It is in truth a most magnificent edifice. Its form is circular, and its pews and galleries all of mahogany. The portico on the south is adorned with five Ionic columns; and the spire is lofty and elegant. It must, however, be confessed that this style of architecture is unsuitable to houses dedicated to religious purposes; and that it shrinks into insignificance, when compared with the solemn regularity and grandeur of the Gothic style. The whole expence of rebuilding this church is said to have exceeded 27,000l.

The Chapel of *St. Anne*, which is dependent upon All-Saints' church, was neglected for several years after the reformation; but repaired by the town in 1682. The present elegant structure was built by Mr. Newton, at the expence of the corporation, and consecrated in 1768.

The houses of religious assembly for dissenters are more remarkable for their number than for splendour of establishment, antiquity, or beautiful architecture. Within the limits of this town there are two Roman Catholic chapels; six meeting-houses for presbyterians, in communion with the church of Scotland; the burghers, the anti-burghers, the Calvinistic baptists, and the independents, each have one. The Weslean methodists have their orphan-house, and their Ebenezer; and the new connection, or Kilhamites, assemble at Bethel, in Manor Chare.

The

The house of the Unitarians is in Hanover Square, and has a library. There is also a small congregation of Glassites.

The Grammar-school was founded by Thomas Horsley, who was mayor of Newcastle in 1525. Queen Elizabeth refounded it in 1599. Its master has usually been appointed to the mastership of St. Mary's Hospital, the premises of which, since the refoundation, have been converted into school-rooms and dwellings for the masters of this institution. Bishop Ridley, the martyr, Colonel Lilburne, Mr. Horsley, author of the Britannia Romana, and Dr. Akenside, were scholars here; Mr. Dawes, the author of Miscellanea Critica, was master from 1738 to 1750. Lords Collingwood and Eldon, Sir William Scott, and several other distinguished characters received the rudiments of their education here, under the Reverend Hugh Moises. This valuable man died in 1806, aged eighty-five. A monument finely executed by Flaxman, at the expence of several of his pupils, and the corporation of Newcastle, has been erected to his memory in St. Nicholas' church.

The town is well provided with institutions for instructing the children of the poor. Each of the four churches has a charity school, liberally endowed. There is another attached to the chapel of St. Anne; and the Sunday schools are nearly as numerous as the several places of religious worship. A very handsome and capacious structure was also erected in 1810, for the general reception of poor children of all sects and denominations, to be educated on the method of Mr. Lancaster. It was built to commemorate his Majesty's entry into the fiftieth year of his reign, and therefore named *the Royal Jubilee School.*

The Infirmary stands on the west side of the town and overlooks the Tyne. This charity was first established in 1751, and the edifice commenced in the same and finished in the ensuing year. Its situation, prospect, and external plan of architecture, were well chosen, but its wards were large and crowded, and the whole house badly ventilated. These inconveniences were represented

presented to the public in 1801, and benefactions, amounting to near 3000l. were procured to remove them. In 1803, the necessary additions and improvements were completed. The revenues of the institution partly arise from funded property, but chiefly from annual voluntary contributions. "From April the first 1809, to March thirty-one, 1810, it restored, under the blessing of Providence, to their friends and the community, 1117 *poor* persons, wholly freed from their respective complaints. In this institution, since its commencement to the present time, 40,712 cures have been performed; and it is matter of satisfactory reflection, that the cures, during each of the years from 1803 inclusive, have been, fortunately, in progressive increase." In the governor's room is a very fine full length portrait of Sir Walter Blackett, by Reynolds; one of Matthew Ridley, Esq. by Webb; one of Dr. Butler, Bishop of Durham; and one of Dr. Benson, Bishop of Gloucester; all of whom were great benefactors to the charity.

A *Dispensary* was established in Pilgrim Street, in this town, 1777. It has since been removed into Low-friar Street, where a suitable building has been purchased, and fitted up by the governors of the institution. "In 1801, there were admitted to the benefits of this charity, four hundred and twenty-five persons afflicted with fevers. The harvest in 1800 was late, the grain and potatoes damaged, and therefore the food of the poor was not only scanty, but afforded little nutriment. The fever, however, was tractable, and from the exertion of this charity few died." In 1810 it appeared, that "56,285 had been admitted to the benefit of the dispensary, of whom 52,572 had been cured." Vaccination is performed here gratis to the poor.

When the Infirmary was enlarged, an attempt was made to fit up a part of it for *fever* wards, but this was over-ruled; and, in 1804, a *House* of *Recovery* was built, near the west gate, by voluntary subscription. It was instituted for the cure and prevention of contagious diseases, and has its medical establishment from

from the dispensary. "Fifteen patients were admitted into this hospital in 1800, and those mostly taken out of numerous families in the close and crouded parts of the town." *

Dr. Hall, an eminent physician in this town, some years since erected, on the outside of the West Gate, a set of very handsome baths. Their design was furnished by Wm. Craneson, architect. Considerable medical skill has been employed here in the application of the gaseous fluids; and we imagine we see the comfort and elegance of the Roman age revived in the use of the vapour, hot, and tepid baths, the swimming basins, and the cold enclosed baths of these edifices. They are situated in a garden very tastefully laid out; the walks fringed with curious shrubs; and the whole somewhat in the style of the baths, the younger Pliny had in his pleasure grounds.

Hospitals.—The hospital of Holy Jesus, usually called the Freemen's hospital, is situated in the Manors, and was founded, erected, and endowed, at the charge of the corporation, A. D. 1681. Its founders laid out 5000l. of its property in purchasing the Walker estate, in the parish of Longbenton. It consists of a master and forty-one brethren, or sisters, being freemen, or widows of freemen, or unmarried sons and daughters of freemen. Contiguous to this is the hospital of Mrs. Anne Davison, founded in 1725, for a governor and five sisters, to be widows of clergymen, merchants, or freemen of Newcastle; also the hospital of Sir Walter Blackett, for six poor unmarried burgesses, endowed by its founder with 1200l.; and the hospital of Thomas Davison of Ferryhill, in the county of Durham, Esq. founded for six unmarried women, daughters or widows of burgesses. The edifices of these three charities were built at the charge of the corporation, in 1754, in which year the two last were founded. By a resolution of the common council at the guild, January the fourteen, 1811, it was ordered that the sixty poor members in these hospitals should, in future, receive two hundred

* Report the sixth.

hundred a month. The Keelman's Hospital, built at their own charge, A. D. 1701, contains a great hall and fifty-two other rooms, and cost upwards of 2000l. It is an institution much in the nature of a benefit society. Its revenues are levied upon the earnings of its members. After many ineffectual attempts to lay it under wholesome and practical regulations, an act of parliament was obtained, in 1788, by which its funds should in future be managed. It was remarked by Dr. Moor, Bishop of Ely, "that he had heard of, and seen many hospitals the works of rich men, but this was the first he ever saw or heard of, which had been built by the poor." *

Besides these should be enumerated the Lying-in Hospital, founded in Rosemary Lane in 1760, and liberally supported by voluntary subscription. And a similar institution begun in the following year for the poor lying-in women at their own houses, in Newcastle and Gateshead. The Society for the relief of the friendless poor was commenced, in 1797, and has its meetings at the baptist chapel, Tuthil-stairs. The Asylum for lunatics, belonging to the counties of Durham, Newcastle, and Northumberland, is in an airy and retired situation, and is a handsome and spacious building. In digging its foundation in 1765, a brass seal, inscribed 'Vis et Deus noster', was discovered; and the field in which it is built is remarkable for its deep intrenchments and breastworks, from which it probably derived the name of the Warden's Close, and which, as we have elsewhere hinted, seem to have been a part of the ancient fortifications of the town.

In Leland's time, "a square haul place of the towne" stood upon Sandhill. The present Exchange and Town-Court were finished in 1658. Robert Trollop, of York, was the architect of this structure. He agreed to build it for 2000l.; † but Bourne was informed that it cost above 10,000l. of which Alderman Weymouth gave, by will, 1200l. and the corporation contributed the rest. It has undergone many external alterations since that time, especially in having its fronts cased with freestone, and its roof

* Bourne, p. 154. † Brand I, 30.

roof covered with blue slate. In 1783, and for several seasons after, a pair of crows built their nest and reared their young among the spikes of a weathercock upon the steeple of this building. Its lower story is occupied by offices of the town-clerk, the merchants' coffee-room, and the piazzas of the Exchange. At the foot of the stair-case is a bronze statue of Charles the Second, in a Roman habit. On the second floor are the Town-Court, or Guildhall, the mayor's chamber, the merchant's court, the revenue office, and the archives of the town. The assizes, quarter-sessions, and other courts of the town and county of Newcastle are held in the Guildhall, the floor of which is laid with black and white marble, and its walls ornamented with full length portraits of Charles the Second and James the Second; as also one of George the Third, painted by Ramsay, in 1760. The merchant's court is over a part of Thornton's Hospital: it is a spacious room, and has a very curious and noble chimney-piece, of carved oak. The common council is held, and the daily business of the magistracy is transacted, in the mayor's chamber; in which is to be seen an engine, called the branks, and concerning which is the following remarkable anecdote in Gardener's England's Grievances, printed in 1655:—

"John Willis, of Ipswich, upon his oath, said that he, this deponent, was in Newcastle, six months ago, and there he saw one Anne Bidlestone drove through the streets, by an officer of the corporation, holding a rope in his hand, the other end fastened to an engine, called the branks, which is like a crown, it being of iron, which was musled over the head and face, with a great gap,* or tongue, of iron, forced into her mouth, which forced the blood out; and that is the punishment which the magistrates do inflict upon chiding and scolding women, and that he hath often seen the like done upon others." † This punishment is still applied to scolds that presume to exercise their talent in examinations or trials before the magistrates.

The

* Lege, *gag*. † Page 17.

The Mansion-house was rebuilt in 1691, at the cost of 6000l. besides the furniture. "It is a building, says Bourne, grand and stately; and, considering the place it stands in, is very ornamental." The saloon is furnished with halberts, and other kinds of armour, and the whole of the interior fitted up in a manner suitable for the dwelling of the chief magistrate of this opulent corporation. Among other allowances, the mayor has a state-coach, a barge, coals for the mansion-house, and 1200l. a-year towards expences in house-keeping. Great hospitality is kept up in this house through the whole of the year, and the judges of assize and their attendants are lodged and entertained in it, during their sessions; at which, if no criminal be capitally convicted, they are each of them presented, by the mayor, according to ancient custom, with a pair of white gloves.

It is uncertain at what time the "guild or fraternity of the blessed Trinity" were licensed. They purchased the site of their present house in 1492; and in 1505 ordered that a hall, chapel, and lodgings for their poor brethren, should be erected upon it at their common expence. Some privileges were probably granted them in 1530, for under that year, in their book of expences, are these entries: "for my lorde admyrall seyll, forty six shillings and eight-pence; for sygnet and prevye seyll, four pounds six shillings and eight-pence; to kynge's grayce for the great seayll, eight pounds two shillings." They had charters granted them by Henry the Eighth, Queen Elizabeth, James the First, Charles the Second, and James the Second. The charter of Henry the Eighth represents them as incorporated for the encouragement of the art of navigation, and with license to build and embattle two towers, one at the mouth of the haven of Tyne, the other on the adjoining hill, in which lights were to be kept every night, and fourpence to be paid to them by every foreign ship, and twopence by every English ship that entered the port. The other charters, though they altered the private regulations of the society, concerning the

choice of a master, the number of their wardens, &c. and enlarged their marine jurisdiction, in no degree infringed upon the main intentions of the first. Within the circuit of their premises they have a free school, erected in 1712, for the instruction of the children of their brethren in writing and mathematics. Their chapel was fitted up in its present neat style in 1654. They have rooms for eight poor brethren, and twelve widows, who, with several other of their own poor, have comfortable allowances from their funds.

The first account we have found of a 'cockettum,' or custom-house, in this town, is in 1281, when a duty of six shillings and eightpence was charged upon 900 wooled skins; the same sum upon a sack of wool; and thirteen shillings and fourpence upon a last of leather.* Robert Rhodes, a great benefactor to the churches of Newcastle, was appointed to the office of "countrouller des custumes et subsidies le roi en le port de Novel Castell sur Tyne," in 1440.† In Queen Elizabeth's time "the customer here had a fee of sixteen pounds thirteen shillings and fourpence, and a reward of twenty-six pounds thirteen shillings and fourpence per annum; the controler, fee four pounds, reward ten pounds; weighters, four pounds, reward among them, four pounds.‡

There was an act of parliament, fourteenth George the Third, to enable Dr. Fawcet, Vicar of Newcastle, to grant a lease of a part of the vicarage garden, for 999 years, and on a rent of twenty pounds a year, for the purpose of building a *House of Assembly* upon. The structure was raised from a design and under the direction of Mr. Newton, architect, in 1776, and cost 6701*l.* The rooms are said to be the most elegant and commodious of the kind of any in the kingdom, except those in Bath. There is a large and very good picture of Sir John Falstaff and Mrs. Ford, by Downman, in the tea-room. Part of the lower rooms are

* Madox's Hist. of the Exch. p. 634. † Bourne, p. 213.

‡ Peck's Desiderata Curiosa, Vol. I. lib. ii. anno 1732.

are used as a coffee-house, which is furnished with a library, consisting of works on political economy, and other subjects suitable to the situation.

The Literary and Philosophical Society of Newcastle was instituted in 1793. Its first meetings were in a room in St. Nicholas' churchyard. While it proposed the discussion of the several branches of polite literature, its leading objects appear to have been the investigation of the situation and properties of the mineral productions of this neighbourhood, and the elucidation of the sciences applicable to commerce. Its library was commenced in 1795, and three years after the whole of its property was removed to the old assembly rooms in the Groat Market, of which the society procured a lease. It is governed by a president, four vice-presidents, two secretaries, and eight committee-men, all of whom are annually chosen out of its *ordinary members*, and vested with the management of its funds. Out of its *honorary members* four are allowed the privileges of ordinary ones. Ladies are admitted to the use of the library; but cannot attend general meetings, or vote in the choice of members. The annual payment to it is a guinea, and its revenues are upwards of 525l. a year. In 1802, a kindred branch, called the *New Institution*, was engrafted upon it, and a part of its funds appropriated to the maintenance of that meretorious establishment, which consists of a permanent lectureship on the several branches of natural and experimental philosophy, chemistry, &c.; and for which a large and very valuable apparatus has been purchased.

The old *Play-House* was built in 1748, upon a part of the walls of St. Bartholomew's church, and has lately been occupied as a concert-room. The *Theatre Royal* originated at the time that Mosley and Dean Streets were built, and was opened by the authority of an act of parliament in 1788. It was built by Mr. Stephenson, and is esteemed a handsome and commodious edifice, by the lovers of the drama.

Amidst the broils and insecurity of the feudal ages, many of

the Northumbrian barons found it necessary to have mansions within the strong walls of Newcastle. Few vestiges, however, remain at present to point out their situation or their grandeur. The Earl of *Northumberland's house* was in the Close. It was that, says Bourne, which has as its entrance a great gate, and a large round ball of stone; and in the lower part of it, towards the river, shews manifest signs of antiquity. Bolbeck Hall, or as it was called after Ralph Nevil was created an earl, *Westmoreland Place*, is situate in Westgate Street, nearly opposite Collingwood Street. Though the building upon its site has an ancient appearance, nothing of the original structure remains, except a remarkable wall, about eight feet broad, which passes the garden. This wall has been converted into a terrace: under it is a vaulted passage, made of very old bricks, and leading to Nevil Tower. *Lord Scrope* had a house in Pilgrim Street. The *Scotch Arms*, near Nun Gate, is traditionally held to have been the lodgings of the kings and nobility of Scotland, in times of truce with England. "It is an ancient building, with a large gate, and has been a piece of stately workmanship."* There was an inn in *Pilgrim Street*, at which the devotees, in their visits to the shrine of St. Mary, at Jesmond, are said to have lodged. Near the head of this street is also a noble mansion, built in 1580, by Robert Anderson, out of the offices, and nearly upon the site of the Franciscan Priory. We take it to have been a kinsman of this gentleman, who is recorded to have dropped his ring over Newcastle bridge, and whose servant purchased a salmon some short time after, in which the same ring was found.† This circumstance happened about 1559. The ring is still in this family of Andersons, and has a fish engraven under the signet, the stone of which, Mr. Brand supposed to be a Roman antique. Sir Francis Anderson, Knight, conveyed this mansion, in 1675, to Sir William Blackett, of Matfen,

* Bourne, p. 51.

† See a similar tale in Littlebury's Heroditus, Vol. I. p. 278; and in Collier's Dictionary, under Kentigern.

ANDERSON PLACE,
Newcastle upon Tyne.

fen, Baronet, who added the two wings to it. It came into the possession of Sir Walter Blackett by his marriage with the grand-daughter of Sir William, and in 1783 was sold to Mr. George Anderson, whose son, Major Anderson, by reason of its being at two distant periods in the possession of two families of the same name, has styled it *Anderson Place*. Grey calls it a princely building; and "indeed," says Bourne, "it is no less than very stately and magnificent, being supposed the most so of any house in the whole kingdom, within a walled town. It is surrounded by a vast quantity of ground: that part of it which faces the street is thrown into walks and grass plats, beautified with images, and beset with trees, which afford a very pleasing shade: the other part of the ground, on the west side of it, is all a garden, exceedingly neat and curious, adorned with many and the most beautiful statues, and several other curiosities." The statues have been removed; but the rest of this description is still, in a measure, applicable to the place. A subterraneous passage, pointing towards the Manors, was discovered in the garden here a few years since, and coins of Edward the Third and Henry the Fourth taken out of it. The parents of Durant, the colleague of Cuthbert Sydenham* in the lectureship of St. Nicholas, were buried in the garden here, as appears from a marble tombstone remaining in the stable-yard. This house also is remarkable for being the head-quarters of General Levin during the captivity of King Charles in Newcastle. That monarch is said to have entered the town guarded by 300 Scottish horsemen, those near him bare-headed. He passed through a lane of pikes and muskets from Gateshead to the general's quarters. He was caressed with bonefires, peals of ordnance, and other marks of rejoicing; and, according to his own confession, was no where treated with more honour than here. Himself and train had liberty to go abroad every day, and to play at goff in the Shield Field, without the walls, till a design for his escape was dis-

 covered,

* See Wood's Athenæ, Vol. II. p. 179.

covered, which occasioned stricter orders to be sent down respecting his person.* There is a traditional account, that he attempted his escape by a subterraneous passage from a cellar in this house to the Lortburn, but that he could not effect the opening of an iron door at the outlet of this passage; but tales respecting these under-ground ways are seldom to be listened to. Soon after the king's arrival at Newcastle, a Scotch minister preached very boldly before him; and when his sermon was done, called for the fifty-second psalm, which begins—

> Why dost thou, tyrant, boast thyself,
> Thy wicked works to praise?

Whereupon his majesty stood up, and called for the fifty-sixth psalm, which begins—

> Have mercy, Lord, on me, I pray,
> For men would me devour.

The people waved the minister's psalm, and sung that which the king called for.† The king having an antipathy to tobacco, was much disturbed by their bold and continual smoking in his presence.‡ When the news reached him of the ill success of his army in Scotland he took no notice of it, but continued in a game of chess, as cheerful as before.

From the time of William Rufus to the reign of King James, this town was constantly gathering an accumulation of power. Rufus gave to its inhabitants

> —— ground and gold ful great to spend,
> To builde it well, and wall it all aboute,
> And *fraunchised* theim to pay a *free rente* out.

Henry the First and his successor exempted it from various burdens; and John, after raising its 'antient fee ferm' from fifty to

* Bourne, p. 235. Brand, Vol. II. p. 471.

† Whitlock's Memoirs, p. 235.

‡ Bourne, *ut sup.* Burnett's House of Hamilton, p. 305.

to one hundred pounds a year, enlarged its privileges. Its first officers were bailiffs, to whom a mayor was added in 1251. In 1400 it was constituted a county of itself, and the direction of it entrusted to Roger Thornton, mayor, William Redmarshall, its first sheriff, and, instead of the four bailiffs, six aldermen, who were vested with the power of justices of the peace. A recorder, eight chamberlains, two coroners, a sword-bearer, a common-clerk, and eight serjeants of mace, were added in 1516. The aldermen were increased to ten in 1557, and the twenty-four electors, who were to be equally chosen from the twelve crafts of the town, were made a common-council. The great charter of Elizabeth ordains, that the mayor, the ten aldermen, and recorder, should be jointly and severally keepers of the peace within the town; and that the common-council should consist of the mayor, aldermen, and twenty-four other burgesses. It was, however, the charter of James that finally and solidly established to this opulent body its large immunities; that fully defined the time and manner of electing its mayor, sheriff, chamberlains, &c. the duration and offices of electors and aldermen; and that clearly pointed out the nature and extent of the jurisdiction of its magistrates, the privileges of the freemen, and the liberties of the town. This borough has continued to send *two members to parliament* since the year 1283, except in the sixth and eighth years of Edward the Second, and first of Edward the Third, when the burgesses omitted to send the representatives, on account of the perilous situation they were placed in by the Scots. Its *markets* are on Tuesdays and Saturdays; and its annual *fairs* August twelfth, October twenty-ninth, and November twenty-second, the last of which only continues one day, and the two other nine days. Its annual revenues, in 1809, amounted to 35,501l. 5s. 2d. Large sums have been expended in widening the streets, and various other improvements in the town. A butcher-market, on a very handsome and convenient plan, has lately been finished at the expence of this body; and we may fairly prophecy, that

the liberal and judicious management of their purse will soon place Newcastle on a level, in convenience, in elegance, and commercial advantages, with the first towns of the British empire.

ELSWICK, in the parish of St. John, Newcastle, was one of the possessions of Tynemouth priory. There were collieries at Heygrove, Westfeld, and Gallowflat, near Elswick, in 1334.* Soon after the reformation, it was purchased by William Jennison, Esq. in whose family it continued till the beginning of the last century, when it was sold to the grandfather of its present possessor, John Hodgson, Esq. who has lately rebuilt the house on a large and elegant plan. Its site is high and bold, and the prospect from it, over the busy scene of the Tyne and the vale of Ravensworth, renders it a very interesting situation. An extensive laboratory for coperas was commenced on this estate in 1808: the apparatus for the preparation of prusiate of iron was removed from this neighbourhood, in 1810, to the south side of the river, at Heworth Shore.

FENHAM, in this parish, belonged to the Knights Templars, and, with the rest of their property was granted by parliament, in 1324, to the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem. It was annexed to the crown at the dissolution, but afterwards came to the Riddels of Swinburne Castle. Thomas Riddel obtained an act of parliament to sell it to John Ord, attorney-at-law, in Newcastle. The mines, in this sale, were reserved; but, in 1770, sold to the Ords, in which family it still continues. From its east front is a fine open prospect of the river Tyne, to the haven of Shields, and the ruins of Tynemouth priory.

BENWELL, the *Condercum* of the Notitia, and the station of the Ala Astorum, is situated on an eminence, near two miles west of Newcastle. A stone was discovered here, in 1669, which Baxter supposes to have been inscribed in the consulship of Senicio and Palma; but Horsley says,† "I take it to have

* Tham. Chartulary, fol. 163. Brand. † Brit. Rom. 212.

have been erected to the honour of the emperors Marcus Aurelius and Lucius Verus, upon occasion of some victory they had gained over the Northern Britons, by Calpurnius Agricola, their legate, in which this Felix Senicio had the command of the first wing of the Asti." The original is partly obliterated.* Several other inscriptions have been found here, the most remarkable of which is a fine altar, dedicated to Jupiter Dolichenus, a deity worshipped by miners.† It was lately purchased, with the rest of Mr. Brand's collection of Roman antiquities, by the Rev. Charles Thorpe, and is at present in the hall of the rectory of Ryton. The inscription, though partly injured, is in the same state as it was in Horsley's time, who read it in this manner:—

Jovi optimo maximo Dolicheno et numinbus Augusti pro salute imperatoris Cæsaris Titi Ælii Hadriani Antonini Augusti Pii patris patriæ et legionis secundæ Augustæ Marcus Liburnius Fronto centurio legionis ejusdem, v. s. l. m.

Since Horsley's time, coins of Trajan, Hadrian, and several other emperors, have been found here; five inscriptions, but none of them of much interest; a great conduit, made of large hewn stones; also, in 1752, a hypocaustum, about 300 yards south-west of the station, and of which an accurate drawing, taken at the time by Robert Shaftoe, Esq. is given in Mr. Brand's History of Newcastle.‡ The fine urn in the library at Durham came from hence. The foundations of an exploratory tower were found opposite the second milestone. An iron railway was made through the north side of the station in 1810, which

* Baxter's reading:—Victoriæ quindecimæ cohortis Gallorum fecerunt erigi, Nonio Senocione consule, felix ala I. Astorum multis prœliis. Horsley's reading:—Victoriæ Augustorum nostrorum fecit nepos Sosii Senecionis consulis Felix alæ primæ Astorum præfectus.

† Vide Reinesii Synt. Inse. Ant. p. *assim.*

‡ Vol. I. p. 607. Bourne, p. 113. coins. Wallis, Vol. I. p. 172. Phil. Trans. No. 130.

which laid bare a part of its walls, and the foundations of several buildings.

A coal mine, near this place, took fire at a candle, in the beginning of last century, and burned near thirty years. Its progress was small at first; but it afterwards acquired so great strength, as to spread into the Fenham grounds, and burst out in the manner of a volcano, in near twenty places. It covered the furze in its way with flowers of sulphur, and cast up pieces of sal-ammoniac six inches broad.

In 1272 Richard de Benwell held one moiety of the villa of Benwell, and Robert de Whitchester and Henry Delaval the other, by service of each a fourth part of a knight's fee, of the barony of Bolbeck. The Delavals had possessions here in 1435. "The *old tower* of Benwell was the place where the prior of Tynemouth had his summer's residence, and the chapel which Mr. Shaftoe opens for the good of the people of his village, was the prior's domestic chapel."* The Shaftoes here were a branch of the Bavington family. Their mansion was joined to the old tower, but the whole edifice has been several years untenanted, and is now in ruins. The register of the chapel ends in 1742; its foundations have been raised; and nothing remains to point out its site, except a few grave-stones,

With nettles skirted, and with moss o'ergrown.

The *village* contains a few neat houses; the ground about it is very fertile; and the view from it, over the island called the King's Meadows,† to Axwell Park, and the woods of Gibside, is truly charming.

JESMOND, about two miles north-east of Newcastle, and in the

* Bourne, p. 113.

† A note written in the time of the commonwealth, in an interleaved copy of Grey's Chorographia, and in the Library at Hebburn Hall, in the county of Durham, says, this island was called the King's Meadows, because hay was procured upon it for the king's horses, when he came to Newcastle.

the parish of St. Andrews, is said to have derived its name from a rood that stood upon a mound of earth at the entrance of the village. It appertained to the barony of Gaugy, in the time of Henry the Third. One Hilton was possessed of a third part of it in 1368; and in 1383, Adam de Athol, who founded the chantry of Holy Trinity, in which, himself and wife were buried, in St. Andrew's church, resided in this village. A third part of the manor of Jesmuth, and of the advowson of the church there, belonged to John Styneley in the reign of Richard the Second.* Sir Robert Stotte came to live here in 1658, and his mansion to this day, is called Stotte's Hall. Sir Francis Anderson, Knight, and others, sold possessions here in 1658, to William Coulson, Esq. whose descendants resided at *Jesmond House*, till it was sold in 1809, to John Anderson, Esq. of Newcastle. The *Holy Well* of Jesmund, was anciently in high estimation, and hither "with great confluence and devotion, people came from all parts of this island, to the shrine of the Virgin Mary."† The *Chapel* and *Hospital*, with their possessions, were granted by Edward the Sixth, to the corporation of Newcastle, who sold them to Sir Robert Brandling. The chapel had been long occupied as a barn and a stable and the hospital has been rebuilt, and converted into a dwelling house.

HEATON HALL, in the parish of All-Saints, Newcastle, and delightfully situated upon the steep and woody banks of Ouseburn, is the seat of Matthew White Ridley, Esq. eldest son of Sir Matthew White Ridley, Bart. whose father, from designs furnished by Mr. Newton, architect, gave the building its present elegant appearance, by adding the two towers, and facing the front with stone. This house was built in 1713, about which time the family had several extensive collieries in its neighbourhood.

* Lawson's M.S. f. 7. "Jacoba que fuit uxor Johannis Stryndlyn obüt seisit, &c." Escheats, xvi. Ric. 2. Brand, I. 197.

† Grey's Chor. ch. viii.

hood.* There was a *chapel* here at which Edward the First attended to hear a *bishop of boys* perform the vespers of St. Nicholas.† Tradition relates that *King John* made this one of the places of his retreat. Robert de Gaugy was greatly in the confidence of this monarch, and this village was held of his barony. Ruins of an old building, fortified on the north, still carry the name of *King John's Palace.* The manor of Heaton belonged to the Babbingtons of Harnham for many years; and was the seat of Sir Henry Babbington in 1628. A descendant of this family, in a low situation, recovered a share of Heaton colliery in 1796.

Near Heaton, on an elevated situation, is the ancient village of BYKER, which with its park, was held by Nicholas de Biker, in grand serjeancy, in 1234. Robert de Biker died, seized of two parts of Byker and Pampedon, fifteenth of Edward the First. The Percys had it in Henry the Sixth's time, and Edward the Fourth granted it to his brother Clarence. Sir Ralph Lawson held it in 1567, and it still continues in the same family. The Roman wall passed on the north side of this place. The mock ruins were built as ornamental objects from Heaton Hall. The free-stone quarries here, have furnished immense quantities of ashlars to Newcastle, and the neighbouring collieries.

GOSFORTH parish formerly contained two chapels, subject to St. Nicholas, in Newcastle. *North Gosforth* chapel began to be disused in the early part of last century, and no vestige at present remains of it, but a few grave stones in its burial ground. The village and barony were held of the crown, by the ancient family of Surtees, from the time of Henry the First, to the latter end of the reign of Henry the Sixth.‡ Afterwards it came to the Brandlings. There are no remains of this village. *South Gosforth* chapel was in existence in Henry the Second's

* Univ. Magaz. Vol. LXXXI. p. 61. Bourne, p. 114.

† Wardrobe, Account of the twenty-eighth of Edward the First.

‡ Testa de Nevill, p. 392. Wallis, Vol. II. p. 268.

Second's time. It has been lately rebuilt; and is remarkable for nothing but its neatness. Though the Testa de Nevill describes South Gosforth as in the possession of the Surtees family, yet from the same record, and other good authority, it appears to have been a member of the barony of Whalton, of which it was held in the time of Henry the Third, by Otwel Lisle, by ward service.* The Lisles obtained it by marriage, of Robert Lisle to the daughter of Richard Canvil, about the year 1170. This manor, and that of Coxlodge, belonged to the Lisles of Felton, in 1567; in which year North Gosforth, among other possessions, belonged to Robert Brandling, Esq. who was created a knight banneret, after the battle of Musselburg.† This family resided at Alnwick Abbey soon after the dissolution, and afterwards at Felling Hall, in the county of Durham. Gosforth House, the seat of C. J. Brandling, Esq. M. P. was built by his father, from designs by Pain. Among the paintings here are several family portraits, and a fine portrait of Rembrandt by himself. Since the building of this mansion the grounds around it have been circled with a broad girdle of wood, and their uniform features broken with plantations and sheets of water.

Cramlington is a village pleasantly situated on a rising ground. In its *chapel* is a marble slab, inscribed "Orate pro anima. Thomæ Lawson, generosi qui obiit 2do die mensis Julii, A. D. 1489. Cujus animus propietur Deus." Adam Ribaud, held six oxgangs here of the barony of Gaugy;‡ and the place has had for tenants the families of Trewycke, Ribblesworth, Harbottle, Hall, and Cramlington, which last, from small beginnings, had amassed considerable possessions here, in 1385. The Lawsons obtained this place by marriage in the reign of Henry the Sixth, and have been possessors of it ever since.

The parish *Church* of Long Benton is dedicated to St. Bartholomew, and, with certain lands in this parish, was given by Sir Philip Somerville, of Wickmore, in Staffordshire, to Baliol College,

* Brand's Newc. Vol. I. p. 322. † Holl. Chron. Vol. II. p. 991.
‡ Testa de Nevill, p. 387.

College, in Oxford, for the maintenance of six scholars. The Benton Magna, South Killingworth, Walker, and the two Weetslets, were manors of Roger de Merlay, Baron of Morpeth, from whom they came by regular descent to the present Earl of Carlisle, who sold them, in 1800, to the Brandlings of Gosforth, and Browns of Long Benton. The Griffiths had possessions here in 1356; and half the ville belonged to the Thorntons of Nether Witton, in 1429. The *basalt dike* in Walker colliery, in this parish, is pure stone in its centre, and on each side gradually falls into carbonated coal.

Little Benton, or Benton Parva, in Henry the Third's time, was held under the baronies of Heron and Heppel. In 1282, it was the Lordship of Jeffry Scrope, of Masham, in Yorkshire, one of whose family founded the *chantry* of the Virgin Mary, in Long Benton church. It afterwards belonged to Ralph, Lord Greystoke, and in Henry the Sixth's reign to William Fitz-Hugh. Thomas Bigge, Esq. by his marriage with a co-heiress of John Hindmarsh, Esq. was in possession of it in 1730, and the two mansion houses here are the property of this family.

Wallsend, the Segedunum of the Romans, was the station of the first cohort of the Lergi, and has its modern name from the great stone barrier terminating here. The fort has been about six chains square, and the field in which it stands is called the *Well*, or the *Wall-Laws*. A wall has led from the south end of its eastern rampart to the Tyne, on the brink of which heaps of ruins are still discernable. "The south rampart," says Horsley, "has run along the brow of the hill, or at the head of the descent towards the river; and the out-buildings or town (as appears by the hillocks of stones and rubbish) has stood upon the descent open to the southern sun, and reached to the side of the river. All which is exactly agreeable to the rules the Romans seem to have almost inviolably observed in building their stations." The steam engines of Wallsend colliery are nearly upon the site of this station. In sinking the shaft of a pit,

pit, very large teeth, and a conduit formed of large stones, were found. Fragments of beautiful pottery; immense quantities of bones and horns of animals are continually turning up; and inscribed stones have been built up by the incurious masons, in the works of the colliery.* Four centurial inscriptions, and an altar to Jupiter, are given in Horsley, the originals of which are at the rectory of Ryton. This inscription—

HADR . . . .
MVR . COND . . . .
HOC MAR . . . .
POS . COSS . D . . . .

given by Penant in his Northern Tour, is a forgery, published in the Newcastle Journal, August 6, 1775. The ancient *village* of Wallsend, called by Leland pagula infrequens, stood on the site of the station; the modern village is a mile north of it, and contains a few excellent houses. The *Old Church* dedicated to Holy Cross, stood very inconveniently upon the brow of a hill, and had a long flight of stairs up to it. The *New Church* was built under authority of an act of parliament, and opened in 1809.

"I dare confidently affirm," says Camden, "that TYNEMOUTH in the time of the Romans was called Tunnocellum;" but Horsley, on rational grounds, placed that station at Boulness, on the opposite end of the wall.† Recent discoveries have, however, proved that the Romans had buildings here. Two inscriptions were found in 1783, on the north side of the castle, six feet below the surface, and in the foundation of an ancient building. They are in the possession of the London Society of Antiquaries. One of them is an altar inscribed in this manner:—

I O M
AEL. RVFVS
PRAEF COH
IIII. LINGO
NVM

which

* Brand's Newc. Vol. I. p. 604. † Brit. Rom. pp. 102, 109.

which is plainly to be read: *Jovi optimo maximo Ælius Rufus præfectus cohortis quartæ Lingonum.* This is the first mention of the *first* cohort of Lingones, and of the prefect Ælius Rufus.* The other inscription is on a tablet about twenty-one inches square:—

CYRVM CVMBAS
ET TEMPLVM
FECIT CVI
MAXIMINVS
LEG: VI: VI
EX VOTO

Gyrum, cumbas, et templum fecit Caius Julius Maximinus Legionis sextæ victrices ex voto. This is the most approved reading. The two first lines of the original are, however, much defaced, and, in different works have been so variously engraven,† as to make us cautious in adopting the barbarous triad, Gyrum, cumbas, et templum. Brand supposed that gyrum meant 'a circular harbour for the shipping;' and, that the word referred to *Prior's Haven*, adjoining to this place, and which, in his opinion, had all the appearance of having been one of the artificial harbours of the Romans: but Gough endeavours to prove that the word has no such meaning. The other readings proposed for the first line are, *Cippum cum basi*, and *Publicum civicum basilicum.* Perhaps the Maximinus here mentioned was that gigantic favourite of Severus, who, from a common soldier was made a centurion, then a tribune, and last of all became commander in chief, and usurped the empire.

Though the origin of the monastic institution at this place is both remote and uncertain, it is believed that a small chapel of wood was erected here in the popular reign of Edwine, king of Northumberland, and that his daughter, Rosella, took the veil in it.‡ His successor, St. Oswald, rebuilt it of stone.§ On account

* Gough's Camd. III. 256.

† Gent. Mag. 1786, p. 825. Brand's Newc. Vol. II. p. 65. Gough's Camd. Vol. III. pl. xxii. fig. 15.

‡ Lel. Col. IV. Tom. L. C. p. 42. § Tan. Not. Mon.

TINEMOUTH CASTLE & PRIORY.

Northumberland.

account of the great number of illustrious persons who performed divine service in the oratory of the Virgin, great local sanctity was soon attributed to the place, and the dead brought from all parts of the neighbourhood to be buried at it.* The royal martyr, Oswin, its patron saint, King Edred, and Henry, hermit of Coquet Island, were buried here, as afterwards were Malcolm, King of Scotland, his son, Prince Edward, and other illustrious persons.† It was destroyed by the Danes; and refounded by King Egfrid between A. D. 671 and 685. Herebald, the friend of St. John of Beverly, was a monk and abbot here. The reiterated ravages of the Danes so entirely put out the light of christianity in these parts, that the remembrance of King Oswin was utterly lost till the time of Tosti, Earl of Northumberland, when the saint appeared to Edmund, the sexton, and revealed the place of his burial. The circumstance being told to Judith, the earl's wife, diligent search was made for the royal remains; which, being discovered, were re-committed to the earth with great solemnity.‡ This earl, as appears from Leland, rebuilt the monastery from the foundation. His successor, Waltheof, gave it with all its possessions, and St. Oswin's body, to the monks of Jarrow. Earl Albrey confirmed the grant to Jarrow; but both these houses were soon afterwards made cells of the church of Durham.§ In 1090, Earl Mowbray refounded Tynemouth, and filled it with black canons; and, out of enmity to the Bishop of Durham, made it a cell to the monastery of *St. Albans*.‖ In his unhappy conspiracy against William Rufus he converted the place into a fortress, which, after a siege of two months was taken by storm. Mowbray contrived to escape to the castle of Bamborough, where, also finding himself insecure, he fled for sanctuary here, but was dragged from the altar and imprisoned.

* Lel. Col. Vol. IV. Tom. III. p. 113.
† Ib. Vol. III. Tom. II. p. 20. Matt. Paris, p. 950.
‡ Lel. Col. Vol. IV. Tom. II. p. 113, &c. § Simeon Dun. Col. 52, 949.
‖ Ib. 218.

On account of the injury it received from this siege it was rebuilt about 1110, in which year, the remains of St. Oswin were regained from Jarrow. The monks of Durham made several ineffectual attempts to recover it from the church of St. Albans.* David, King of Scotland, spared it from the general desolation in which his arms involved Northumberland, for the consideration of twenty-seven marks of silver.† William Pigun, the thievish and gluttonous monk who stole the common-seal of St. Albans, and committed a forgery with it, was banished from that house to this cell at *Thinemue*. His end was miserable; "for falling asleep in the privy, after he had over-eaten and drank, he never waked again; and the monks who were in the dorture, distinctly heard a voice crying in the privy, 'take him, Satan! take him, Satan!'"‡

When William Trumpintun was abbot of St. Alban's, "to the end that he might reign alone without contradiction, he removed his prior, Reimund, the greatest monk then living, well knowing that if he subdued the chief the rest would be hushed through fear, and sent him away to the cell of Thinemue, which is a place of banishment for our monks, taking away his books, which had cost him much pains to procure, and other necessaries that he might have enjoyed, being an ancient man. From that time none durst open their mouths against the abbot; and he went on merrily and securely, and visited the cell of Thynemue and others, with great retinue, being attended by a great number of kindred, who had never known him before. I will here mention what is to be done when the abbot comes from Thynemue:—When he goes thither, he is to be attended by six esquires, who, to this effect, have extraordinary feofs of the land of the church. These six shall be at the abbot's charge, both going and coming, but upon their own horses, the which shall be sightly, and strong enough to carry, according to custom, if need be, the habits of a monk behind each squire. If any horse

* Sim. Dun. Col. 243. † Dug. Mon. Vol. I, p. 335. Ric. Hag. p. 316.
‡ Stev. Cont. of Dug. Vol. I. p. 253.

horse belonging to any of these squires shall happen to die by the way the abbot is to give him ten shillings for his loss. It is to be observed, that the abbot is to ask the king's licence to go to such remote parts of the kingdom, and so near Scotland, whensoever he designs to repair to Thynemue. When arrived there, he is to behave himself modestly, correcting the family; not to be a tyrant, not squandering the provisions and stores of the house; but considering that he is come thither to reform all that requires it, and to visit his flock with fatherly affection. Peace being restored, and King John dying, William resolved to visit Thynemue, and other cells, and accordingly set out northward. In his way he was attended by such a multitude as looked like an army. There he reformed what was amiss; and being desir'd by the prior to discharge him of that office, because he was grown old, he intreated him to have patience for awhile till he could provide for all things. The old prior, with much difficulty, obtained leave to quit that dignity, and was all the rest of his life kept by the abbot, as his counsellor, and at his table."*

Among the most remarkable features of the history of this place, after this time, are the following. The churches of Eglingham, Norton, and Hartburn, were given to the monks for the purpose of mending their ale, and to enlarge their means of hospitality. The prior mediated a peace between England and Scotland, in 1244; and eleven years after obtained a charter from Henry the Third, to hold a market in his ville and manor of Bewicke. He claimed the privilege of a market also at Tynemouth; but in a suit on that account, judgment was given against him in the King's Bench. The place, however, had certain immunities, which it annually asked of the judges itinerant, by some great public character, or by its bailiffs, at the 'Chille' Fountain, in Gateshead, when they came from York; or at 'Faurstanes,' when they came from Cumberland. They returned the king's writ within their respective lordships,

* Stev. Cont. of Dug. Vol. I. pp. 255, 256.

and were exempted from cornage by King John: several villages in Northumberland, however, paid cornage both to St. Alban's and to this house.* Edward the First, in 1299, restored them certain free customs, which the crown had deprived them of, and granted the prior to have all pleas concerning his men, lands, and tenements, to be pleaded and determined by his own justices, the king's justices not being permitted to enter his liberty.† A fair, granted to the place in 1303, was revoked the next year, on the petition of the town of Newcastle. The prior caused a pillory to be erected in the village, in 1307. A riotous band of Northumbrians, at the head of whom were Sir William de Middleton, Knt. and Walter de Seleby, ravaged this house, in 1316; but being apprehended, they were sent to London by shipping, and there tried, condemned, and hanged. The hospital of St. Leonard, at this place, is of uncertain foundation: it existed in 1320. Ruins of it are still traceable a little to the west of Tynemouth, on the road to Newcastle.‡ The queen of Edward the Second resided here some time, in 1322; as had also the queen of Edward the First, in 1303. The monastery was plundered by a party of Scots, under the Earl of Murray, in 1389.§ Cardinal Wolsey wrote to Lord Dacre, warden of the marches, desiring him, 'by all means and politique wayes which he could devise,' to bring one Robert

* Stev. Cont. Dug. II. p. 79. Tin. Chart. f. 97.

† Brand's Newc. II. p. 86. ‡ Ibid, II. p. 91.

§ On August the twentieth, 1384, being the festival of St. Oswin's Passion, whilst a sailor was hewing a piece of wood for his ship, at Newcastle upon Tyne, he perceived blood to flow from it; but recollecting the holy day, desisted from his employment. A companion of his disregarding the miracle, came and struck it again; but immediately blood gushed from every part that was cut, as if one's breast had been pierced with a sword. The matter was told to the clergy, who, with the laity, approved of the miracle: the wood was taken to Tynemouth, and placed by the body of the saint, in testimony of the miracle. Walsingham, Ypo. Neust. p. 536.

bert Lambert to justice, who, on account of murder, had taken sanctuary in the church of this monastery.*

Robert Blakeney, prior, with fifteen monks and three novices surrendered this monastery, January the twelfth, 1539, when an annual pension of eighty pounds was assigned to the prior, and smaller ones to each of the monks and novices. Its site, with all its offices, were demised, March the ninth, in the same year, on a lease of twenty-one years, and at a yearly rent of 163l. 17s. to Sir Thomas Hilton. Its possessions were very large, having twenty-seven villas in Northumberland, with their royalties belonging to it:—viz. Tynemouth, Milnton, Shields, East Chirton, East Preston, Monkton, Whitley (where they had a tower) Murton, Ersden, Backworth, Seghill, Wolsington, Dissington, Elswick, Wylam, Hertford, Cowpen, Bebside, Weldon, Hauxley, Ambell, Eglingham, Bewick, Lilburn, Flatworth, Middle Chirton, West Chirton. They had the lands of Royeley and Denum,† a tower at Benwell, and possessions at "Mökeseiton, Denton, Whittingham, Billymille, and Framlington."‡ They had the tythes of Corbridge, Ovington, Wylam, Newburn, Dissington, Callerton, Elswick, Bothal, Warkworth, Ambel, Rothbury, and Wooler, in Northumberland; and of Hertnes and Middleton upon Tees, in Durham. Several messuages in Newcastle belonged to them, as also the impropriations and advowsons of the churches of Tynemouth, Woodhorn, Whalton, Bolam, Bewick, Eglingham, Hartburn, Shilbottle, and Haltwesel, in Northumberland; and those of Conscliff, in Durham. The Benedictine monastery on Cocquet Island was a cell to this house. Their whole possessions, in 1539, were estimated at 706l. 10s. 8½d. a year.§ These continued in the

 hands

* Brand's Newc. Vol. II. p. 103.

† Ibid. p. 110. Grose, Vol. IV. p. 146.

‡ Law. MS. f. 13. Brand's Newc. p. 110.

§ MS. in the Augm. Office. Brand, Vol. II. p. 111. Dugdale values it at 387l. 10s. 5d.—Speed at 511l. 4s. 1d.—and Stevens' Continuation says, "summa inde 511l. 4s. 1½d. summa clara 397l. 10s. 5½d. per ann."

hands of the king till Edward the Sixth, in 1550, gave them in fee to John Dudley, then Earl of Warwick; but on that nobleman's attainder they again reverted to the crown, and, in 1567, were enumerated amongst the queen's possessions in Northumberland.*

The church was parochial till 1659, when a part of its roof is said to have fallen in, and killed five or six soldiers.† On account of this great "decay, and the parishioners in the late civil wars being often debarred the liberty of a free resort to it, another was begun to be built, in 1659, and being afterwards finished, was consecrated, in 1668, by Bishop Cosins."‡ The cemetry here, however, continues to be used; but the little *oratory* of St. Mary, which, a few years ago, was in great perfection, and occasionally used at funerals, has lately suffered great desecration, having had its windows walled up, and being converted into a magazine for military stores. This oratory is nine feet broad, and eighteen feet long. "It is adorned," says Grose, "with intersecting arches, and the ceiling ornamented with figures in relief, representing Christ and the twelve Apostles. These are enclosed in roundels, having an inscription under each of them, in the old text hand: both these and the figures are as fair and perfect as when first executed. This chapel is lighted by a round window. On each side of the door are two heads, in a style much superior to that of the general taste of the age in which they were supposed to have been done; and over the same door are two escutcheons, the dexter one charged with bearings of Vesey, a cross sable; the sinister, the bearings of Brabant and Lucy, quarterly."§ Hutchinson conceived this place contained the shrine and tomb of St. Oswin. But we believe, with Grose, that the arms just mentioned are those of the Percys, for the Tynemouth Chartulary mentions "the new chapel of St. Mary," in 1336; and MS. authorities in the Bodleian and Bennet college libraries, quoted by Brand, prove

* Law. MS. f. 13. † Thur. St. Pap. Vol. VI. p. 431.
‡ Mag. Brit. Vol. III. p. 694. Ed. 1724. § Hutch. II. 346.

prove that Lord Henry Percy, about that time, was a great benefactor to this church, having bestowed 100 marks and more than 1000 trees, to assist in its reparation, after it had been destroyed by the Scots.* To this date may also be fixed the origin of the greatest parts of the edifices, as they stood at the dissolution. They indeed appear to have been the work of different ages; many of the arches being ornamented with the zig-zag, several of them semi-circular, and others pointed.

Colonel Edward Villiers was governor of this castle in 1665, and died in 1707. Much of the priory was "pulled down by him, for erecting the barracks, light-house, his own house, near it, and other edifices; he likewise stripped off the lead which till then had covered the church. This I was informed by an ancient man, who lived near the spot; and who likewise said a great deal, particularly a long gallery, had fallen down of itself. Towards the south side this monastery seems to have been surrounded by a double enceinte of walls. The graves of many persons, said to have been slain in the siege, are frequently visible in a dry summer, without the walls of the place."† In these banks are also apparent a *seam of coals*, and a *metallic vein*, which has produced a small quantity of *lead*.

During the years we were threatened with French invasion, these light and elegant remains suffered greatly by the military arrangements made at that time. Sufficient specimens of them, however, are left to point out the extent and ancient magnificence of the establishment; though more wanton and more needless desecration was never committed upon any spot than this.

John Wethemstede, a learned and voluminous divine and historian, while he was prior here, was promoted to the abbacy of St. Albans, upon which occasion he gave to his house a chalice of gold.‡ *John* of *Tynemouth*, also, an eminent sacred biographer, was born and flourished here. He was vicar of Tynemouth in 1366. His greatest work he called *Sanctilogium Ser-*

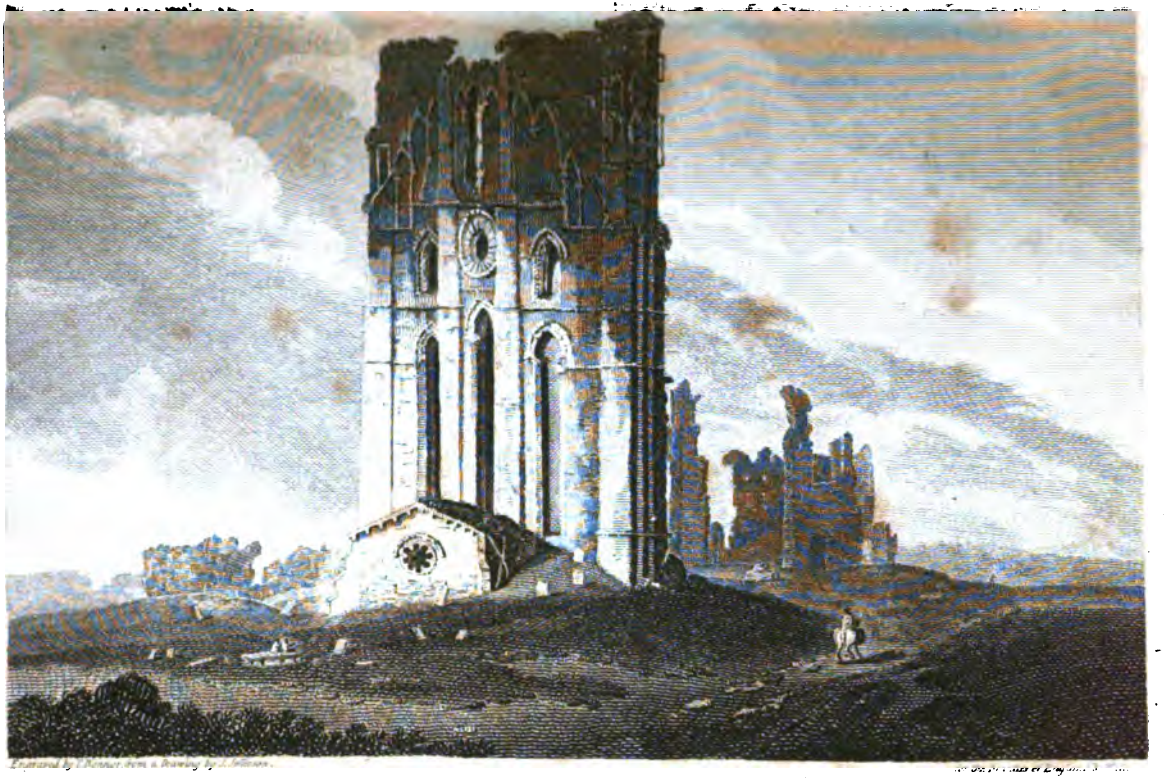
* Brand. II. 94. † Grose, *ut sup.*

‡ Stev. Con. of Dugd. Vol. I. p. 26.

*vorum Dei.** His Golden History, in twenty books, is extant in the library at Lambeth.†

We have before mentioned that *Tynemouth Castle* was two months besieged by William Rufus.‡ Henry Lord Percy, about the year 1336, gave 100 marks towards building a gate here; and, under 1379, the Tynemouth Chartulary describes the priory as "a certain fortified and walled place, to resist the malice of the enemies of the kingdom." In Queen Elizabeth's time it had one master-gunner at eightpence a day, and six inferior gunners at sixpence a day each.§ At present, says Camden, it glories in a noble and strong castle, which, in the language of an old writer, "is made inaccessible on the east and north side by a rock over the ocean; but, on the other sides, on account of its lofty situation, is easily defended."‖ The Earl of Newcastle put it into a posture of defence in 1642. He sent to it, from Newcastle, six great guns and 300 soldiers, and threw up trenches, and built a fort to defend the haven;¶ but it was obliged to surrender to General Levin, in 1644, when thirty-eight pieces of ordnance, and great store of ammunition and provisions fell into his hands. The garrison were allowed to march out with their baggage; but bound themselves to submit to the instructions of parliament. Before this surrender the soldiers had suffered so much by the plague that the commander in chief had fled out of it;** and six prisoners who had been taken in Northumberland, made their escape in a tempestuous night, "through a privy built on the north side of the castle; and though the rock is very high, yet, with sheets sewed together, they let themselves down."†† On Colonel Lilburne's revolt, in 1648, this fortress was stormed, and all found in arms in it were put to death! Lilburne was decolated, and his

* Stev. Con. of Dugd. Vol. I. p. 208. † Nicholson's Hist. Lib. Vol. I. p. 179.
‡ Sax. Chron. p. 202. § Peck's Desid. Cur. Vol. I. lib. ii. p. 15.
‖ Brit. p. 658. Ed. 1590. ¶ Lord's Jour, Vol V. p. 170.
** Par. Hist. Vol. XIII. p. 326. †† Rush. Coll. p. 4. Vol. II. p. 1219.



REMAINS OF TYNEMOUTH PRIORY.
Northumberland.

his head stuck upon a pole! After long neglect the batteries were repaired, and the castle made a depot for arms and military stores in 1783; at which time Major Drunford discovered the two Roman inscriptions. Little remains of this ancient bulwark except a strong gate-way, the approach to which has been lately flanked with bastions, in the true gingerbread style. The village of Tynemouth is much frequented in the bathing season; and very convenient warm and cold baths have been erected in the Friar's Haven.

The four wards of the town of NORTH SHIELDS contained, in 1801, not less than 891 houses, and 7,280 persons. In a case between the town of Newcastle and the Prior of Tynemouth, tried in the King's Bench, in 1292, it appeared that, at this town, where there had been certain small dwellings, the prior of Tynemouth had built a quay and twenty-six houses, and that these houses were tenanted by fishers, brewers, and victuallers, so rich as to be able to give loading and victuals for 100 or 200 ships; and that, because all this was done to the great loss of the king's revenue, and the detriment of the town of Newcastle, judgment was given against the prior, and he was ordered to remove all these new erections at his own charge.* As Newcastle continued to insist upon having the sole right of holding a *market* upon the navigable part of the Tyne, the want of one was much complained of at this place by its inhabitants, and the sea-faring people that frequented it, in the time of Cromwell, who, it should seem, had serious intentions of constituting it a market-town.† But the measure was, at that time, prevented by the breaking up of parliament, and many years elapsed before this desirable privilege was obtained. The *plague* raged here in 1635. We have before noticed, that the *parish church* was built in 1659. It is a plain but commodious edifice, conveniently situated on the north side of the town: it has at various times undergone alterations and enlargements; and, some years ago, a steeple was erected, and six musical bells placed therein. *Charity schools*, on the improved systems

* Bourne's Newc. p. 162, 178. † Engl. Griev. pp. 117, 119, 124.

systems of education, have been lately founded here: they are supported by annual benefactions. The oldest part of the town is a long narrow street, on the brink of the river, which, for dirt and bustle, and confusion, is no where better equalled than in Wapping. The improvements and enlargements here have, however, been carried on of late years on a very extensive scale. Many new streets have been built, others are now building, and several more have been planned. Dockwray Square, a place of considerable neatness, is the most fashionable part of the town; being chiefly inhabited by wealthy ship-owners. An elegant inn, built by the Duke of Northumberland; a new market-place, on the side of the river; and a public library, are amongst the latest improvements. At the foot of the town are two light-houses, maintained by the Trinity-house of Newcastle; and near them Clifford's fort, built in 1672;* taken by the Scots 1644;† and which effectually commands all vessels entering the river.‡

At *Chirton*, in this parish, Mr. Gardiner wrote that severe stricture on the coal trade, entitled "Englands Grievance Discovered." Mr. Collingwood, brother of the late Lord Collingwood, and Mr. Cardonnell, author of "Picturesque Antiquities of Scotland," have each a residence here. It has been conjectured§ that this place had its name from having been the site of a Roman fort: for in the fields of East Chirton there was a place, in 1320, called "Blake Chestres."‖ *Cullercoats* is a small bathing-town, inhabited chiefly by fishermen. Here are warm and cold baths, a ballast hill, the ruins of an old pier, of a waggon-way for coals, and behind the village a neglected quaker burial-ground. *Whitley* contains fifty-five houses, some of them inhabited by genteel families; this village was held of the prior of Tynemouth, by the singular service of making, at the tower thereof, a large annual feast, called 'le conveyes,' to the members of the monastery and certain of its dependents, on

* Bourne's Newc. 178. † Wallis II. 255.

‡ See South Shields, Vol. V. p. 153.

§ See Reynold's It. Ant. ‖ Tynem. Chart. f. 81. Brand's Newc. II. 91.

on Innocent's Day, and the day after. As horses and dogs were included in the number of the guests it is probable that hunting made one part of the amusement.* The *Monk's Stone*, near the village of Monkseaton, is nothing more than the remains of an ancient cross; upon the pedestal of which is this "idle and modern" inscription: "*O Horor to Kill a man For a Piges head.*" This motto Mr. Grose, with considerable hesitation, attributes to a liquorish monk of the cell of Tynemouth, who strolling to the castle of Seaton Delaval, cut off a pig's head from the spit, and made the best of his way homewards with it. Mr. Delaval, on his return from hunting, enraged at this audacity, remounted his horse, and pursuing the offender, overtook him at this place, and so belaboured him with his hunting gad, that his death, which happened within a year and a day, was laid to his charge. As an expiation of the deed this obelisk was erected, and the manor of Elsig (or Elswick) conveyed to the monastery.

Earsdon Church is a plain ancient building, dedicated to St. Alban, and is subject to Tynemouth, to which, with the manor and tythes of Earsdon, it belonged in 1097. The manor paid six shillings a year cornage to the prior of St. Alban's.

Seaton Delaval is situated upon a gentle slope, and though the surrounding country is flat and tame, yet the magnificence of the building, the extent of the pleasure grounds, and its contiguity to the sea, renders it an interesting spot. The site of the *ancient castle* was a little to the south-west of the present structure; but its walls have been entirely razed, its ditches levelled, and nothing is now left of the first establishments of this family except the *chapel*. This little venerable pile is one of the purest and most perfect specimens of Norman architecture in the kingdom. Except in its roof, it seems to have undergone very few alterations. Above the west door, within and without, are six shields, charged with arms of the Delavals. The arches, at the entrance into the chancel and above the altar

* Tynem. Chart. f. 68.

altar, are supported by short columns, with plain heavy capitals, and wrought with double tiers of zig-zag. The walls are decorated with pieces of armour, tattered banners and escutcheons. There are also here two old monuments—one of them a recumbent figure of a knight templar in armour, resting upon his left arm, his shield plain, and the other a neatly executed recumbent figure of a female, with her hands elevated. Each of them have a dog at their feet, the usual emblem of faithfulness.

Seaton Delaval was built by Admiral Delaval, after a design of his friend Sir John Vanbrugh. Reynolds contributed much to rescue the bold and extraordinary genius of this architect from that unmerited neglect to which it had been consigned by jealousy and vulgar criticism. The porticos, the hall, and the saloon, are the chief features of this edifice. The offices in the lowest story are all arched with stone. The wings range at right angles with the north front of the house. They have fine arcades along the whole length of their fronts; and contain the kitchen, &c. on the west side *, and very noble stables on the east. The large addition to the east end of the southern front has broken the uniformity of Vanbrugh's design, though it has been executed in his style. It was the intention of the family to have made a corresponding addition on the west, but as the present erections are in extent more like a royal palace than the country seat of a subject, it is not likely that the plan should be ever finished. Among the most remarkable productions of art in this house are—a fine full length portrait of Charles the Twelfth of Sweden, in the fruit room; very fine full length pictures of the princess of Modina, and one of her daughters; the mother of the present Mr. Delaval, and one picture of seven, and another of four of her children, by Pond; with a picture of Sir Ralph Delaval, coasting admiral in the time of Charles the Second, and several other family portraits in the saloon. In the

* This wing was destroyed by fire, May 6, 1752, but rebuilt on the original plan.

the gilt parlour are heads of Sir Francis Drake and Sir John Delaval, of Hartley; and, in the mahogany parlour, heads of Admiral George Delaval, and his friend Sir John Jennings, both by Lely. The original picture of the Duchess of Cumberland, by Reynolds, from which the mezzotinto engraving was taken, is also here.

The pleasures grounds are extensive, and great attention has been paid to adapt them to the situation. In spite of the neighbourhood of the sea, the trees in the lawn are healthy, and have attained a venerable size; but in the sea-walk, and where the plantations are narrow, they are stunted and miserably shattered. A fine obelisk, about half a mile south of the house, has been happily placed in the dead flat towards Tynemouth. The mausoleum was built by the late Lord Delaval, in memory of his son, who died about his twentieth year. *

Seaton

* This family came into England with William the Conqueror, to whom they were related by the marriage of Guy Delaval to Dionisia, second daughter of Robert, Earl of Mortagne, and William's niece. In 1121, Hubert de la Val gave to the monks of Tynemouth, the tythes of Seaton, Callerton, and Dissington. * Richard of Hexham, flourished between 1154 and 1189, † and says, that Robert *de Seiton*, with *Richald*, his mother gave to the church of Hexham a moiety of the ville, called Achewic; and that afterwards this *Riched*, mother of Robert *de la Val*, gave to the same church all her right of the other moiety of Achewic. These are enumerated among benefactions to Hexham, by David, King of Scots, and King Stephen, and may therefore be dated between 1125 and 1154. ‡ Dugdale mentions a Hugh Delaval, in 1139; and a Guy Delaval, the capital seat of whose barony was in Yorkshire. John 'Deval' was liberated from a Scotch prison in 1174; § and Gilbert Delaval was one of the twenty-five barons sworn, respecting the execution of Magna Charta, and Charta Foresta, by the pope. ‖ Eustace Delaval held, in capite, of Henry the Third, Black-Callerton, with Seiton and its members, Newsham and Dissington, for two knights' fees of the old feofment. ¶ Hugh Delaval married Maud, daughter and Heiress of Hugh de Bolbec: ** he was alive in 1293, but

* Spearm. MS. † Seld. præf. ad. X. script. p. xxvii.
‡ X. Script. Col. 307. § Brompton Col. 1105. ‖ M. Paris, p. 254.
¶ Testa de Nevill, p. 383. ** Dugd. Bar.

Seaton was in possession of the prior of Tynemouth in 1079,* and paid 41d. a year cornage to the abbot of St. Albans. The manor, however, comprised a part of the barony of Delaval in 1121,

* Brand's Newc. Vol. II. p, 27.

but died without issue. Eustace succeeded Hugh, and the next after him was Robert, who married Margaret, daughter of William, Lord Greystoke. This Robert was cousin and heir of Andrew de Smethton,* who, in 1311, died seized of the manor of "Seiton Delavale, and the ville of North Dissington." Lord Josceline D'evil was one of the barons who suffered in the bloody quarrel stirred up by the "she-wolf of France."† William Delaval, sheriff of Northumberland in 1375, married Christiana, daughter of Robert de Eslington. There was a Sir Robert Delaval, in 1378; he was succeeded by Sir Henry Delaval, who dying without issue, his ville of 'Calverdon,' and its members, went to John Turpin, of Whitchester, who had married his sister Alice; but she also dying without issue, a third of the barony descended to his sister Elizabeth, wife of John de Turpin. One Manberye had half of "Seiton Delaval, North Dissington, and Hartelawe," in 1402. After this, great part of the family possessions seem to have centered in William Delaval, of Benwell, who was alive in 1435. A Whitchester, however, held a third part of the manor of Seiton Delaval in 1450.‡ Sir John Delaval, who was four times sheriff of Northumberland, and the last time, in 1570, was possessed of "Seiton Delaval, Black-Callerton, Brandon, half of Bydlesden, the ville of Hartley, and other possessions," in the tenth of Elizabeth.§ His eldest son, John, does not appear to have lived to inherit the estate; for, in 1575, we find it in the hands of Sir Robert; of his son Ralph in 1605; then of his grandson Robert; and then of his cousin Ralph, who was created a baronet in 1660. This title, in the next generation, became extinct in Sir John Delaval whose only daughter married John Rogers, Esq. and at whose decease the family possessions came to George Delaval, of South Dissington, who had three sons, Sir John, of Hartley, Edward, of Dissington, and Admiral George. Edward had issue by Mary, daughter of Sir Francis Blake, of Ford Castle, one son, Sir Francis Blake Delaval, who married Miss Hussy ap Preace, grand-daughter of Sir Thomas Hussy, of Doddington, in Lincolnshire. The produce of this marriage was numerous. The eldest son, named after his father, was created a Knight of the Bath, at the coronation of George

* Wallis, II. 273. † Knighton, Col. 2541. Lel. It. Vol. V. f. 103.
‡ Laws. MS. f. 12. § Ib. MS. f. 15.

1121, and has continued in that family ever since. The harbour here was formed by Sir Ralph Delaval, Bart. "Charles the Second, who had a great taste for matters of this kind, made him collector and surveyor of his own port."* It is called Seaton-Sluice, from the sluice and flood-gates which Sir Ralph invented to scour the harbour. The salt trade has diminished. The copperas and glass works were commenced by Thomas Delaval, Esq. who, having resided some time at Hamburgh, obtained considerable wealth, and a passion for commerce. He also planned the new entrance into the harbour, which was executed by the late Lord Delaval, his brother, to whom he sold all his concern at this place. The new entrance is cut through a fine free-stone, and is nine hundred feet long, thirty feet broad, and fifty-two feet deep. The harbour is capable of holding twelve or fourteen sail of vessels, each of two or three hundred tons burden.

HARTLEY, a village about half a mile south of Seaton-Sluice, in the time of Henry the Third, was held by knights' service of the barons of Gaugy. The Hetton family had half this mannor in 1352,† and the other half appears to have been considered as a member of the Delaval barony, from the twelfth of Richard the Second to the tenth of Elizabeth,‡ when it was wholly in the hands of Sir John Delaval. On *Bates' Island*, opposite Hartley, was formerly a small chapel, dedicated to St. Mary, and a hermitage, both desolated. Lord Delaval

* Hutc. Vol. II.

† Lawson's MS. f. 4. ‡ Wallace, II. 278.

George the Third: he dying without issue, in 1771, was succeeded by his brother, Sir John Hussy Delaval, who was created a peer, by the title of Baron Delaval, of Ireland, and afterwards of England. He married first Rhoda Robinson, by whom he had one son, who died a minor. His second marriage was to Miss Knight, January, 1803. His lordship died in 1808, when the entailed estate came to his brother, Edward Hussy Delaval, of Doddington, Esq. its present possessor, and the personal property was bequeathed to his relict.

Delaval formed a small harbour here, for refuge to the fishermen in storms. The fucus lycopodioides abounds on the stems of fucus digitalis on this island, and along the coast towards Tynemouth.

HALLIWELL was held by soccage tenure of the barony of John Baliol, by Eustace Delaval, whose descendants had property here in 1435. Over the door of an old mansion-house of Ralph Bates, Esq. of Milburn House, is inscribed MEDIO .... IA FIRMA. 1656. This village has its name from St. Mary's Well, which is medicinal, and turns to a deep purple with galls.* *Backworth* was anciently a possession of the prior of Tynemouth; and, since the dissolution, has been many years the residence of the ancestors of R. W. Grey, its present owner, who built the new mansion-house there. *Burroden*, a strong old fortress, was the seat of Bertram Anderson in 1552.† It is the property of the Ogles of Cawsey-Park, but in ruins.

SEGHILL was mistaken, by Camden, for Segedunum. It belonged to Tynemouth Priory in 1097. A branch of the Mitford family resided here, and built the tower and afterwards a mansion-house, both of which are at present in ruins. Since their time it belonged to the Allgoods, of Nunwick, who sold it to the late Sir Francis Blake, of Twizell Castle, Bart.

SOUTH BLYTHE has a commodious port for small vessels. The bishops of Durham have jurisdiction over the river and the wastes, between high and low water marks. Formerly they had royal rights upon it. The yearly rent for anchorage here, at four-pence a ship, in 1346, was only three shillings and four-pence. The coal-trade flourished here during the siege of Newcastle; but, after that, Gardiner complained bitterly against the corporation of that town for impeding the commerce, and especially the coal-trade of Blythe and Hartley.‡ That grievance has, however, been removed, upwards of fifty sail of vessels being registered here. The chapel of Blythe was built by Sir M. W. Ridley, Bart. who also provides a chaplain to it at his own

* Wallis, I. 18. † Leg. March. p. 223. ‡ Engl. Griev. p. 127.

own expence. *Newsham* was held, in capite, of Henry the Third, by Eustace Delaval, and belonged to one of that family in 1460, It was the seat of Thomas Cramlington, Esq. in 1567, whose descendant, Robert, having his estate sequestered by parliament, in 1652, this manor, and that of South Blythe, were purchased by Col. Thomas Ratcliff, and at present are possessions of Sir M. W. Ridley.

STANNINGTON was a member of the barony of Roger Merlay, in the reign of Henry the Third. * At his death it was divided by the marriage of his daughter, Mary, to William Lord Greystoke, and of Johanna, to Robert de Somerville. The moiety which fell to the Greystokes descended to the Dacres, and from thence to the Howards. The other half went from the Somervilles, in the twenty-ninth of Edward the Third, to Sir "Rhese ap Griffith," by his marriage with Joan, eldest daughter and co-heiress of Sir Philip Somerville: and to Maud, his grand-daughter by Elizabeth, the wife of John Stafford. † The Griffiths for some time had a fourth part of the manor; but the whole of the Somerville moiety was in the hands of the Thorntons, of Netherwitton, in 1567. ‡ The rectory and advowson of the vicarage were granted to the abbey of Newminster, by Roger de Somerville, in 1333; and Roger de Merlay, who died in 1264, founded a chantry in this church to the Blessed Virgin, and endowed it with lands and privileges at Clifton and Coldwell, in this parish.

HORTON chapel was formerly subject to Woodhorn, but severed from it in 1768. Two maiden sisters of Admiral George Delaval lived in *Horton Castle*, remains of which were existing in 1809, when its foundations were razed and its fosse levelled. Edward the First pardoned the prior of Tynemouth for acquiring lands in "Hertford, Bebesset on Blythe, Coopen, &c." without license of mortmain. § *Bebside*, after the dissolution, belonged to John Ogle, Esq. in 1567, and to Edward

* Testa de Nevill, p. 383. † Mag. Brit. ‡ Law. MS. f. 16.
§ Brand's Newc. II. 88.

Delaval, Esq. in 1628. It was sold to John Johnson, Esq. about the year 1700, from whom it descended to Mr. Ward, its present possessor. *Hartford-House*, the seat of William Burdon, Esq. was built after a design of Mr. Stokoe, architect, Newcastle. It is well situated upon the woody declivities of the Blythe, which, in this neighbourhood, affords very excellent landscape. This manor paid five-pence farthing cornage to the abbey of St. Alban's.

BEDLINGTONSHIRE is a parish, in Chester ward, in the county of Durham, and lies between the rivers Wansbeck and Blythe. It measures about 191,000 acres, and, in 1801, contained 1196 persons. It was a royal franchise under the bishops of Durham, and enjoyed its own courts and officers, till it was stript of those privileges by statute of the twenty-seventh of Henry the Eighth; in all civil matters it is a member of the county of Durham. "Bishop Cutheard purchased, out of the treasury of St. Cuthbert, the village of Bedlington with its appendages, Nedertun, Grubba, Twisle, Bedingtun, Sliceburne, and Commer." * The monks of Durham, in their flight to Lindisfarne, before the arms of the Conqueror, with the incorruptible body of St. Cuthbert, rested all night here. † The *church* was appropriated by Bishop Farnham to the priory of Durham, in 1242, when the stone roof of the church of Durham was commenced. ‡ The Reverend Francis Woodmas, the expositor of St. Chrysostom, was vicar here, from 1696 to 1719. Every plough-land of the *manor* paid a thrave of corn to Kepeir Hospital, near Durham, about the time of Richard the Second, a claim which was afterwards covered by an annual payment of nine shillings. This, and the Choppington farm, were purchased of the parliament, in 1659, by Robert Fenwick, Esq. for 1296l. § At the restoration, the purchasers of the church lands offered the king a large sum to confirm their right for ninety-nine years; but, instead of accepting

* Sim. Dun. Col. 73. † Ib. 39. ‡ Hutch. Durh. II. 74.

§ Whitelocke's Memorials, p. 201.

accepting it, he granted a commission for enquiry after all such purchases.

The Bedlington blast-furnace, for smelting iron, was some years since taken down: the concern belonged to the Mailings of Sunderland, and was accounted very unsuccessful. Messrs. Hawks and Co. of Gateshead, afterwards carried on extensive works in wrought iron, both at the *Bebside* and *Bedlington Mills*, which at present are the property of Biddulph, Gordon, and Co. and employ about fifty men.

Blagdon, Shotton, and North-Weetslet, places which had nearly similar revolutions of proprietors with Stannington, were held by John de Plessis, in Henry the Third's time, of the barony of Morpeth, by the service of one knight's fee.* *Blagdon* belonged to the Fenwick's in 1567; but, after they sold Little Harle, they had their residence here, till they parted with it to the Whites, a family who came from Hawthorn, in the county of Durham. Matthew, who amassed considerable wealth as a merchant in Newcastle, built the house, which was enlarged and ornamented by his son Matthew, who was created a baronet in 1756; but, dying without issue, the estate went to his sister Elizabeth, wife of Matthew Ridley, Esq. of Heaton, and is at present enjoyed by their son, Sir M. W. Ridley, Bart. Near this last place is the ancient ville and manor of *Bellasise*, for which Robert de Bellasise made service for a third part of a knight's fee, to Henry the Second. The Somervilles and Griffiths had possessions at it; in the seventeenth of Henry the Sixth a Bellasise held half the manor; and since that it was for many years the residence of a family of Bells. An unsuccessful attempt was a few years ago made to establish a manufactory of printed cottons at Stannington bridge.

Whalton is a thinly populated parish. The *church* is ancient: some of the Ogles have been buried in its chancel: it was repaired, and parapets and pinnacles added to the tower, in 1783. The *village* is remarkably neat and clean; and the rec-

* Testa de Nevill, p. 383.

tor's mansion is surrounded with tasteful pleasure-grounds and fine trees. The *barony* was given by the Conqueror to Walter Fitz William, one of his followers. It was held by service of three knights' fees. King John took it from Robert de Crammaville, and gave it to Roger Fitz Roger, the last of whose line took the surname of de Clavering, but dying without legitimate issue, he settled great part of his estate on Edward the First.* In 1308, the king's son died seized of this *manor*, and that of Newburn.† The Scroops of Masham had it in 1346‡, and in 1446. It was a possession of the crown in the reign of James the First; but was afterwards granted to the Maggisons of Whalton, and others. John Shaw, author of certain works against popery, and several times a member of the convocation, was rector here, in 1645. There is a remarkable camp, a little to the east of this village, from which the term Whalton, or *Walton*, may have probably originated.

Ogle Castle has been nearly demolished. The remnant of it, however, in its small windows, with pointed arches, sufficiently demonstrates the time of its building. It has had a square double mote around it. The Ogle family were seated here before the time of the conquest. Humphrey de Ogle had a grant of all his property from Walter Fitz William.§ Thomas de Ogle held his manor of the barony of Whalton, by service of one knight's fee and a half; but, adhering to the barons in their rebellion against Henry the Third, his estate was extended, and not recovered till the reign of Edward the Third, who, in 1340, granted license to Robert de Ogle to convert his manor-house into a castle, and to have free-warren through all this demesne. This Roger, by marriage with the only daughter of Sir Robert Bertram,

* Mag. Brit. † Law. MS. f. 4.

‡ In Trinity Term, twentieth of Edward the Third, it was found in the rolls of the exchequer that Henry Lescrop held the manor of Whalton, with the barony, in chief, by the service of three knights' fees. It is *manerium cum baronia*, which may signify that this manor was a barony, or the seat of a barony. Madox, Bar. Ang. p. 41.

§ Bourne's Newc. p. 112.

Bertam, of Bothal, became possessed of that barony;* after which the property was united till the year 1809, when Ogle was sold to Thomas Brown, Esq. an opulent ship-owner in London. After the battle of Neville Cross, John Copeland, with eight companions, rode off with David, King of Scots, and after carrying him twenty-five miles, arrived about vespers at Ogle Castle, on the river Blythe.†

PONTELAND, mistaken by Camden for the Roman station Pons Elii, has its name from its moist situation on the river Pont. The *church* is dedicated to St. Mary, and in the appropriation and advowson of Merton College. It is in the form of a cross; its tower remarkably broad and heavy; the door-way in the west of Norman architecture; the porch arched, and covered with heavy freestone flags. The arches in the inside are all pointed. In the chancel windows are several arms on painted glass. Here too are the burying-places and stones inscribed to the memory of the Goftens of Island or Eland Hall, the Horsleys of Milburn-Grange, the Ogles of Kirkley, and the Carrs of Dunston. The Lincoln taxation, made about A. D. 1291, values "Pont-Ealand rectory at 30l. 1s.; the prebend of Lord Charles de Bellamont in it, at 23l.; and that of Philip de Wyleby at 20l. 10s.‡ There was a chantry in this church, dedicated to St. Mary.§ "Mr. Richard Coats died, January the third, 1719, and left his whole effects, at or about 70l. per annum, to the parish of Pont Island, for a *charity school.* Mrs. Barbara Coats built the school-house at her own charge."‖ The barons of Mitford were lords of the manor of Eland. Gilbert de Eland held, in Eland, one plough-land, by the payment of two pair of white gloves and one lax;¶ and his descendants had considerable possessions here for many generations. The ville of Ponteland, with Eland Green, and lands in Meresfen, were

* Mag. Brit.; and Wallis, Vol. II. p. 551.
† Johnes Froisart, II. 190. *et seq.* ‡ Tan. Not. Mon. p. 396.
§ Hutch. State of, &c. p. 56. ‖ Inscrip. in the church.
¶ Testa de Nevill, p. 386.

in the hands of one Sentynns in 1567;* and the Erringtons, of Errington Castle, had an extensive estate here from 1597 to 1774, in which year they sold it to George Silvertop, Esq. This place was the head-quarters of the King of Scotland, in 1244, when the English army was at Newcastle; and it was here that a peace was negociated between the contending parties, by the prior of Tynemouth, and other ecclesiastics.†

Thomas Burgilon, in the reign of Henry the Third, held, in soccage tenure, of the barony of Mitford, sixty acres of land in KIRKLEY, by the payment of half a mark; Hugh Belle had sixty other acres, by the same service; and "Marieria de Cirkelaw" held a fourth part of the village, by paying a mark and a half.‡ The family of Eure, who were lords of Kirkley and barons of Witton, in the county of Durham, held this manor in Edward the Second's reign, by annually presenting a barbed arrow at the manor court. They had other valuable possessions in this neighbourhood. Several of this family held high situations in Northumberland. Sir Ralph was in parliament in 1351. Sir William was sheriff in 1436; and his son Ralph held that office in 1503, and was afterwards warden of the East Marches, which office he filled with great credit. "He, with his friends, tenants, and servants, maintained the Castle of Scarborough for six weeks against the northern rebels; the garrison living for twenty days on bread and water." He was slain in a battle with the Scots on Hallidon Hill, in 1436.§ This place has, for upwards of two centuries, been the seat and property of a branch of the ancient family of the Ogles. "The mansion-house makes a handsome appearance, being a square building, with wings, consisting of offices." The landscape, to the east of it is extensive and good.

NORTH MILBURNE was held of the barony of Mitford, by knights' service in Henry the Third's time, by Simon de Diveliston

* Esch. 10 Eliz. † Chro. de Mail. p. 207. Matt. Paris, p. 646.
‡ Testa de Nevill, p. 386.
§ Rid. Bor. Hist. p. 592. Wallis, Vol. II. p. 554.

liston, who granted it to the church of Hexham. After the dissolution Barthram Anderson, of *Milburne Grange*, procured possessions here of Edward the Sixth, and conveyed them to Edward Horsley, whose descendants have been seated here ever since. "MILLEBURNE del SUTH" was also a member of the Morpeth barony, and held of it by knights' service by Robert de Meneville. Thomas Bates held it in 1567; this family were formerly seated at Halliwell. One of them was supervisor of Queen Elizabeth's property in this county; and another of them a member of parliament for Morpeth. *Milburne House*, their present residence, was built in 1809, by Ralph Bates, Esq. from designs by Mr. Patterson, of Edinburgh, architect. The rooms in it are all oval, and elegance and utility have been happily united through the whole structure.

NEWBURNE.—Osulph, enraged at being deprived of the earldom of Northumberland, betook himself to the woods and mountains; but afterwards collecting a few of his associates in want and disgrace, he besieged NEWBURNE, where Copsi his rival, was tumultuously enjoying himself with his friends. Copsi took refuge in the church; but the revenge of his antagonist was not to be softened by dread of heaven or ecclesiastical censure; fire was applied to the sacred edifice, and the earl in attempting to escape, was seized and murdered. This happened on the third of the ides of March, 1072. This was one of the Northumbrian churches, held of Henry the First, by Richard de Aurea Valle, and which that monarch gave to the canons of the church of Carlisle. Except the tombs of the Delavals of North Dissington it contains little worthy of notice.

The *village* or *borough* of Newburne paid a fee-farm rent of thirty pounds a year to Richard the First. His successor John, in 1201, raised their rent to fifty pounds; and, on account of privileges and exemptions they enjoyed, imposed a fine upon them of fifteen marks, and two palfreys. As the tide flows past this place, its commercial consequence might have been expected to have kept pace with the times; but Newcastle, which in the

thirteenth century paid only a sixth more rent than Newburne, reaped too many royal favours for a rival to thrive in its neighbourhood. The *manor*, or, as it is sometimes called, the barony of Newburne, has had the same revolution of possessors as Warkworth, from Robert Fitz Roger, in the time of Henry the Third, to the present day. On the twenty-eighth of August, 1640, there was a sharp conflict here between the armies headed by Lord Conway and General Lesly. "The Scotch pitched their tents on Heddon Law, above Newbourne, from whence there went a continued descent to the river of Tyne. In the night time they made great fires in and round about the camp, in an open moorish ground (having coals plenty thereabouts) so that the camp seemed to be of large compass and extent." Vestiges of this encampment appear very fair a little south-east of Heddon Law, on Throckley Fell. The king's army consisting of 3000 foot, and 1500 horse, were drawn up on Stella Haugh, opposite Newburne. Their line extended near a mile, and they had thrown up breast works, at the two fords, to oppose the passage of the Scotch, at low-water. Lesly, unknown to the English, planted nine pieces of cannon on the tower of the church, and placed his musqueteers in the church, houses, lanes, and hedges, in and about Newburne. These cannon, says Burnett, were made of bar-iron, hooped, like a barrel, with cords, and wet raw hides. They were carried on horseback, and bore several discharges. After these had played awhile upon the English breast-works, and exposed their army to the fire of the musquetry, his soldiers began to murmur, and Conway sounded a retreat. Commissary Wilmot, Sir John Digby, and Daniel O'Neal, being commanded to bring up the rear, were surrounded and made prisoners; but were nobly treated by Lesly, and had afterwards liberty to return to the king's army. This, says Clarendon, was an irreparable rout. Conway was accused of cowardice and treachery, and made a most miserable defence against the charge.*

North

* Rushworth's Collections, p. 1234. Whitlock's Memoirs, p. 34.

North and South Dissingtons were manors and seats of the Delavals soon after the conquest. Edward Delaval, who was page to Charles the Second, lived at *South Dissington*; and the place still continues in the family. Admiral Delaval was born at *North Dissington*. He sold it to the Collingwoods, from whom it descended, by bequest, to Walter Spencer Stanhope, Esq. of Cannon Hall, Yorkshire, its present possessor. The chapel here, which was subject to Tynemouth, has been many years neglected; though the estate continues to pay a small modus in lieu of tythes, as if a chaplain was still maintained.

WOLSINGTON, an ancient possession of the priory of Tynemouth, belonged to the Jennisons, in Queen Elizabeth's reign. They sold it to James Dagnia, Esq. of Cleadon Hall, in the county of Durham, a celebrated amateur in painting; and of him it was purchased by the ancestors of the present possessor, Matthew Bell, Esq.

DENTON was a manor of the barony of Whalton, in Henry the Third's time.* In 1380 it was given, with "Redwod, near Newburne," to the prior of Tynemouth, by Ada de Fenrother.† Soon after the reformation we find, in the list of grand jurors, a family of Errington's residing here. From them it passed to the Rogers, the last of whom married the daughter of Sir John Delaval, of Hartley, and died without issue. His estate being divided, this portion fell to the Honourable Edward Montague, Earl of Sandwich, and husband of Lady Mary Wortley Montague, who fitted up the old *hall* in the Gothic style. Vestiges of a chapel, and a cemetry, as also a sepulchral stone, inscribed with a sword and flowered crosier, were found here about thirty years since. By the rivulet east of this place, a piece of the Roman-wall is still remaining; and about 200 yards of it were lately razed here, when two centurial stones, each inscribed C. IVLI RVFI, *i. e.* Centurio Juli Rufi, were dug up.

At LEMMINGTON are extensive manufactories of crown and flint glass; as also the *Tyne iron-works* which employ about two

* Nom. Feod. p. 28. † Brand's Newc. Vol. II. p. 97.

two hundred men, and annually produce about 23,000 tons of iron. At Scotchwood a mile below this place Lord Dundonald established the first apparatus for extracting tar from pit coals.

HEDDON ON THE WALL.—Walter de Bolbec gave to the *church* of St. Margaret at Blanchland, and to the canons serving God there, the right of patronage to the church of St. Andrew, at Heddon, with all its appurtenancies, for the good of the soul of his father, Walter. The deed of grant is witnessed by his mother, his brother, Hugh de Bolbec, and others. The east end of the chancel of this church, is a neat specimen of pure Norman architecture; the other parts of the edifice are all Gothic. When the military way was made through this village, in 1752, a large and very valuable collection of silver and copper Roman coins and medals were found in the Roman wall here, deposited in wooden boxes, which were much decayed. * The *manors* of Heddon on the Wall, East and West Hedwin, Whitchester, and Houghton, with its members, were parcels of the barony of Bolbec, in the reign of Henry the Third. †

CLOSE HOUSE, making part of the manor of Houghton, was formerly a chapel, founded by the Ratcliffes of Carlington Castle, and endowed with the lands which comprise the present estate. At the reformation it reverted to the Ratcliffes, and was by them sold to the Reeds; and of the Reeds purchased, in 1620, by Robert Bewicke, Esq. an opulent merchant in Newcastle, who had his residence at Bewicke's Entry, in the *Close*. This mansion is very delightfully situated on the north bank of the Tyne. It was built in 1779, when the old chapel, which stood on the site of the bow-window, at the east end of the house, was pulled down. It is one of the seats of C. Bewicke, Esq.

Robert de la Val, and Richald, his mother, about the year 1140, gave half the village of Achewic, now called *Eachwick*, to the church of Hexham. This same Richald, afterwards, confirmed to them all her right of the other moiety of this village; and

* Hutc. Vol. II. p. 439. † Testa de Nevill, p. 382.

and other benefactors encreased their possessions here after the dissolution. The manor and hall were purchased of the crown by John, second son of Sir John Fenwick, of Wallington. They descended by the female line from him to Ralph Scourfield, Esq about 1670, and from him to Edward Bell, of Bellasise, Esq. whose eldest daughter, and co-heiress, married George Spearman, Esq. of Preston, near North Shields, the father of Ralph Spearman, Esq. the present possessor. In making a road through an old camp near this seat, several hand mill-stones, a sacrificing knife, and a flint-ax, similar to the pattoo of the South Sea islands, were discovered, and at present are in the possession of Mr. Spearman. *Whitchester* was, for many generations, the seat of the Turpins, a family allied to the Ratcliffes, Delavals, Routchesters, &c. In a large *cairn*, on *Turpin's Hill*, in 1771, a stone chest was found enclosing nothing but a small quantity of ashes and burnt bones. In 1795, another of these chests was found in the same cairn: it contained two urns, and copper coins of Domitian, Antoninus Pius, and Faustina, which are at Eachwick Hall. There are also curious tumuli at Heddon Law and Dewly Law.

SOUTH TINDALE.—The parish of *Kirkhaugh* lies in south Tindale, and at the south-west extremity of Northumberland. Cultivation here is confined to the borders of the river, from which the mountains on each side rise with a rapid but irregular ascent. The *church*, a neat but humble-looking edifice, is placed in a meadow, on the southern margin of the Tyne. The stone coffin, and the altar, dedicated to Minerva and Hercules, were some years since either removed or destroyed. The Tyne, in these parts, is, as Froissart describes it, "exceedingly rough and stoney." It rises very suddenly during heavy rains, and almost as suddenly falls in fair weather. Nearly opposite to the church is *Whitley Castle*, a Roman station, which, on the authority of the Notitia, and the corroborating evidence of an inscription, Mr. Horsley pronounced to be *Alione*, garrisoned by the third cohort of the Nervii;* but recent

* Brit. Rom. pp. 110, 455.

recent inquiries have refuted this opinion. That the place was once of considerable importance, the inscriptions found at it, and its present remains abundantly testify. Its walls enclose an area of nearly nine acres, and have been defended, on the west, by ten different breast-works, each resembling a right-angled triangle, the hypothenuse of which faces inwards. These have partly extended to the north and south sides, and two of them have girded the whole area of the station; from which the ground slopes on every side but the west, and on the east rather rapidly. A year ago the remains of a very fine sudatory were discovered at its north-east corner, out of which issues a clear and plentiful spring. Many of the pillars of the hypocaustum were standing, covered with large thin slabs of freestone, and a strong calcareous cement, in our visit to this place in September, 1810. The Maiden-Way passes the east wall of the station, at the distance of about fifty yards. Between this way and the north-east corner of the station, about five years since, an altar, bearing the following inscription, was found fixed in a socket like the pedestal of a cross; and near it, at the same time, were discovered, the head, a hand, and feet of a colossal statue:—

DEO
HERCVLI
C. VITELLIVS
ATTICIANVS
C. LEG VI
V. P. F.

Deo Herculi Caius Vitellius Atticianus centurio legionis sextæ victricis ponens fecit; *or*, sextæ votum perficiens fecit.

On the right side of this altar is a rude figure of Hercules, fighting with a serpent, twisted round a tree; and, on the left, the same deity is represented, strangling a serpent in each hand. The original is at an ale-house near the station: it has a square hole in its top; and the fragments of the statue, in all likelihood, appertained to one of Hercules, which had been fixed upon this altar.

altar. The most remarkable inscription that this place has afforded is given by Camden in this manner :—

IMP. CAES. Lucii Septimi Severi Ara
BICI. ADIABENICI PARTHICI,
MAX. FIL. DIVI ANTONINI Pii Germanici
SARMA. NEP. DIV. ANTONINI PII PRON
DIVI HADRIANI ABN. DIVI TRAIANI
PARTH. ET DIVI NERVÆ ADNEPOTI
M. AVRELIO ANTONINO PIO
FEL. AVG. GERMANICO PONT. MAX.
TR. POT..X..IMP....COS. IIII. P. P....
PRO PIETATE AEDE.... VOTO....
COMMVNI CVRANTE.....
.....LEGATO AVG.
PR..COH. III. NERVIO....
RVM..G. R. POS.

Camden calls it an imperfect inscription, in abbreviated and complicated characters. The original has probably been destroyed. Mr. Horsley, however, found a copy of it at Appleby, and has given this reading of it :—

"Imperatoris Caesaris Lucii *Severi* Arabici Adiabenici *Parthici* maximi filio divi Antonini *Pii* Sarmatici nepoti divi Antonini Pii pronepoti divi Hadriani abnepoti divi Trajani Parthici et divi Nervae adnepoti Marco Aurelio Antonino Pio felici Augusto *Germanico pontifici maximo* tribunitiæ potestatis decimum.....imperatori....consuli quartum patri patriae pro pietate ædem ex voto communi curanti legato Augustali cohors tertia Nerviorum Genio Romæ posuit."

By this, says Camden,* we learn, that the third cohort of the Nervii erected here a palace to the Emperor Antoninus, son of Severus; and Horsley observes, "that if this temple has been erected to Caracalla, it has been dedicated to him as the Genius of Rome, or of the Roman people; a flattering compliment too often paid by them to their emperors. The inscription was erected in the year 213." † We think that G. R. POS. in the last line, should be read gratis posuit. Horsley also found here a fragment of an inscription, which likewise referred

* Gough's Ed. Vol. III. p. 177. † Brit. Rom. p. 250.

ferred to Caracalla. And there was, in his time, a centurial stone here, inscribed VEX. LEG. XX. V. V. REFEC.; and in the church-yard of Kirkhaugh, an altar dedicated DEAE MINERVAE ET HERCVLI VICTOR. Over the stable-door of the above public-house, is an altar, on which are carved a patera and urceolus. The area of the station is covered with irregular heaps of ruin: no stratum of stone appears within several miles similar to its remains. Thornhope, *i. e.* the Castle-brook, runs a little to the east of this place, and derives its name from it.

The parish and village of KNARESDALE, derive their name from the *Knare*, a stoney brook on the east side of the village. The meadows by the Tyne, about this place, are very fertile; and the woods upon its banks healthy and luxuriant. Williamston and a few other spots on the river are remarkably sweet and sequestered. The mountains on each side are lofty, and their heads covered with heath. The church has an ancient appearance, and the ground about it is irregular as if it had been covered with buildings or encampments. The *manor* of Knaresdale was forfeited by John Pratt, and granted to Sir R. Swinburne, by Edward the First, in 1279, from whose family it passed in Queen Elizabeth's reign, to William Wallace, of Copeland Castle, Esq. by his marrriage to Eleanor second daughter of John Swinburne, Esq. of Edlingham. It was sold by Robert Wallace to Alderman Stephenson, of Newcastle,* of whose son it was purchased by the late Mr. Wallace, of Featherstonehaugh Castle. Knaresdale Hall is ruinated. The forest was anciently extensive and well replenished with red-deer, the breed of which is nearly, if not altogether, extinct in these parts. "I have seen," says Wallis, "about five or six in company, never more."† On the side of a mountain, called Snowhope, is a strong medicinal spring.

Lambley was anciently a small house of Benedictine nuns. It is uncertain who was its founder. King John, in 1200, confirmed a grant of Adam de Tindale, and Heloise, his wife, to God

* Wallis, Vol. II. 19. † Ibid, Vol. I. p. 408.

God, St. Mary, St. Patrick, and the nuns of Lambley, of right of pasturage on both sides the Tyne, in their manor of Lambley, and the chapel of Sandiburnesele, with four acres of land, in the same place, and the tythes and offerings; as also the donations of Benerings, and Sandiburnesele made by Helias, nephew of the said Adam.* They had a fifth part of the village of Widen, and certain possessions in Newcastle.† This place and its neighbourhood were miserably burnt and wasted, by a roving army of Scots, in 1296.‡ At the dissolution it had six nuns, and a yearly income of 5l. 15s. 8d. Edward the Sixth granted it to Dudley, Earl of Northumberland, but on his attainder it reverted to the crown, and comprised part of the estate of Featherstonehaugh Castle in 1567.§ It afterwards became the seat of the Allgoods, of Nunwick, in whose possession it is at present. The Tyne ran amongst the walls of the nunnery in Camden's time; and has now swept away all appearance of it. This is a spot of great loveliness. Between the river and the old residence of the Allgoods, is an ash-tree of ten trunks, all sprung from one stock, and each of great height, thickness, and foliage of the most exquisite lightness. The *chapel of* Lambley stands among a few poor cottages called *Harpertown*; and is certainly one of the most humble of the daughters of our religion. Opposite Harpertown is an old fortress called *Castle-hill*, defended on three sides by the natural slope of the river bank, and on the fourth by a deep, dry trench.

HALTWHISTLE.—The parish *church*, pleasantly situated on the south side of the town, is dedicated to the Holy Cross. A tradition current about this place has handed down, that the church was once situated on the south side of the river, on a piece of ground called the Church Close, but that it was washed away by the Tyne; we apprehend that the Church Close

* Dug. Mon. Ang. p. 506. Stev. abr. p. 62.
† Wallis, Vol. II. p. 19. Brand's Newc. Vol. I. p. 344.
‡ Knighton, Col. 2479. § Law. MS. f. 20.

Close was the site of a chapel,* for the use of the inhabitants on the south side of the river, like that at chapel houses, which, on Speed's map, is marked opposite Lambley. The tombs in this church, indeed, prove its high antiquity. Over one of the Blenkinsops' is one of those funeral inscriptions in use before the common people were able to read. It is inscribed with the family arms, a large and well executed flowered crosier, a broken hilted sword, and a staff and script; all which, while it proves the antiquity of the church, shows that the person, over whose remains this stone was placed, had honourably passed from a military to a religious life, and that he had made a pilgrimage. Here is also an altar-tomb with this inscription:—"*John Redle that sum tim did be then Laird of the Walton gon is he out of this val of mesre his bons lies under this ston*, 1562." This John Ridley was brother to the celebrated martyr, Dr. Nicholas Ridley, Bishop of London. The rectorial possessions of this church were granted by royal charter, in 1283, to the priory of Tynemouth; and are at present in different lay hands. The edifice consists of a nave, two side aisles, and a chancel; and has lately undergone considerable repairs. The village contained, in 1801, ninety-eight houses and six hundred and twenty-eight inhabitants. It has a market on Thursday, and fairs on the fourteenth of May and the twenty-second of November. Over the door of the School-house is inscribed—This charity-school was founded by the Right Honourable Dorothy Chapel, Baroness-Dowager of Tewkesbury, &c. and this house was granted by the Rev. Thomas Pate, about A. D. 1722. At the east end of the village is a remarkable oval mound, called the *Castel Banks*, having a fine spring in its centre, and at each end four gradations of terraces from the natural surface to its summit, the north side of which is defended by a breast-work of earth, and the south by a steep declivity. Not far from this there is also another curious oblong hill apparently factitious, and

* See Lel. It. Vol. VII. f. 62.

and called the Schill Hill. There are two old turreted buildings in this town, strongly characterestic of the insecurity and jealousy of the border times; and half a mile to the east of it a large square Roman castra æstiva, called Whitchester, and defended on three sides by deep rugged glens.

BELLISTER CASTLE, on the southern banks of the river, opposite Haltwhistle, at present consists of a rude and crumbling mass of ruins, overshadowed by an enormous sycamore. It stands on a high artificial mound, and has been surrounded by a broad foss. The landscape around it is good, the fields rich, and the banks woody. It was the seat of Thomas Blenkinsop* in 1551, and of George in 1567. At present the manor belongs to Cuthbert Ellison, Esq. of Hebburn Hall, Durham, and the castle and estate to Mrs. Bacon, of Newbrough.

BLENKINSOP CASTLE is on the west side of the Tippal. The country around it has a cold and naked appearance. It is built upon a little eminence, and has been defended by a deep dry ditch on the north and west; on the south by the chamber of a rivulet, and on the east by a steep bank. The buildings have consisted of a square tower, built upon vaults, and surrounded by a high outward wall at the distance of four yards. Though it is miserably ruined, a few rooms of it are still tenanted by two poor families. The stones of which the tower has been built have the same character as those found in Roman stations, and, we suppose, have been brought from Caervoran. In two places we found the letters P. N. which are probably only the initials of some modern name.

An altar bearing this inscription, in the beginning of the last century was at this place :—

DEABVS NYM
PHIS VET....
MANSVETAE..
LAVDIA TVR....
NILI. FIL. V. S. L.

* Leg. March, pp. 160, 163.

It is at present in the garden wall of the inn at Glenwhelt, a small village a little to the north of this place; where, also, is the collossal head, measuring five feet in circumference, which Hutchinson saw near Thirwall Castle. The right side of this altar is worn, as if it had been used in a staircase. Mr. Horsley reads it thus:—Deabus Nymphis Vetia Mansueta et Claudia Turbinilla filia votum solverunt libentes. This estate, in the time of Henry the Third, was held by Ralph Blenkinsop, of Nicholas de Boltby, Baron of Tindale, by the annual payment of half a mark, and is at present in the possession of his descendant, J. Blenkinsop Coulson, Esq. of Blenkinsop Castle, a mansion which he has lately built, at Dryburnhaugh, on the east side of the Tippal, and opposite to the old family residence.

FEATHERSTONEHAUGH CASTLE (*i. e.* the castle in the meadow where the stones are stratified featherwise, as in the bed of the Tyne at Hartleyburne Foot) was the seat of Thomas de *Fetherstonehaugh*, in the time of Henry the Third, and held by him of the barony of Tindale, by the yearly payment of six shillings and eight-pence.* The manor was some years since sold to the Earl of Carlisle; but the estate continued in the family till it was sold by Sir Matthew Fetherstonehaugh, of Up Park, in Sussex, Bart. to the father of its present possessor, the Right Honourable Thomas Wallace. This edifice, like most of the border castles, had a ditch around it, and consisted of a strong tower, built upon arches, and furnished with turrets. Mr. Wallace has added three smaller towers, and a suit of offices, which, with the garden wall, are executed in the castilated style, and make a bold and interesting appearance. It fronts the narrow vale of Hartleyburne, through which, and over the rocky and finely wooded banks of the Tyne, are seen the high and heathy summits of Tindale and Byres Fell. The meadows around it are uncommonly rich; the trees in the hedge-rows and the lawn, large and luxuriant, and the plantations

* Test. de Nev. p. 369.

sions throughout the whole estate remarkably healthy, thick, and picturesque.

THIRWALL CASTLE stands on a rocky precipice, above the Tippal, and a little south of the Pict's Wall. It gave name to an ancient family before called Wade.* The church of Hexham held lands and possessions here, the gift of Brian de Thirwall, and Roger, his son, prior to the twenty-seventh of Edward the First. The heiress of this family, in 1738, married Matthew Swinburne, of the Capheaton family, who sold the castle and manor of Thirwall to the Earl of Carlisle. The walls of this fortress are, in some places, three yards, and in others two yards and three quarters thick, but sadly ruined. "At the entrance," say Wallis, "part of an iron gate is still remaining, within which, on removing the rubbish, the flooring of a room was discovered, in 1759, consisting of three courses of flags, one above another, a stratum of sand lying between each." It was vaulted underneath. Great part of it has of late years been applied to building cottages. "Here the Scots opened to themselves a way into the province between the Irthing and the Tyne, and very prudently too, in the very place by which the heart of the kingdom was most accessible, without the intervention of any rivers." "The Scots," says Fordun, "being masters of the country, on both sides the wall, began to inhabit it as conquerors, and calling together the peasantry with their hoes, quillets, or spades, rakes, forks, and mattocks, began to dig a number of cuts and pits all over it, by which they could easily pass and repass. From these holes the wall here takes its present name, the place being called, in English *Thirlwall*, in Latin, *Murus Perforatus*."† In sight of this castle, to the south, is a camp, with a single vallum of turf, and a foss. It is called Black Dykes. The vallum is high on the north. Lead bullets have been found in its area on cutting turf. West of it a quarter of a mile is another camp.‡

UNTHANK HALL stands on the south side of South Tyne,

* Camden, Gough's Ed. Vol. III. p. 232. † Ibid. ‡ Wallis, Vol. I. p. 4.

and under a heathy mountain, called Plen Meller. It was the seat of the late Robert Tweddle, Esq. and by him bequeathed to Robert Pearson, Esq. of Benwell. THRAPWOOD, near Haydon bridge, is the residence of the Reverend Robert Tweddle, whose brother John, a gentleman of polished learning, died at Athens on the eight of the kalends of August, 1798, in his thirtieth year, and was buried there in the Temple of Theseus. Farther down the river, and on the same side is WILLIMOTESWICK (*i. e.* the moat and villa of William) an old and ruined fortified residence of the ancient family of Ridleys, from whom descended Bishop Ridley, the martyr; Dr. Lancelot Ridley, author of a Commentary on the Epistles of St. Paul; Sir Thomas Ridley, Chancellor to Archbishop Abbot, and author of A View of the Civil and Ecclesiastical Law; and Sir Thomas's son and biographer, Dr. Gloster Ridley. * Their lineal descendants are at present settled at Heaton and Blagdon, in this county, where they have large possessions. They had also a residence at HARDRIDING, in this parish, which they sold to Mr. Lowes, a family resident at that time at Crow Hall, on the north side of the South Tyne, but who of later years have had their seat at RIDLEY HALL, on the opposite bank of that river, and near its confluence with the Allen. This mansion stands in a fine open situation; and the walks around it, especially among the woods and rocks on the banks of the Allen, are very romantic, and and abundant in excellent specimens of landscape. The estate and hall were, in 1567, parcel of the possessions of the Ridleys, of Willimoteswick. The Lowes' family are also ancient in these parts, and have their name from being possessors of the forest of Loughs (or Lakes) in this parish. Near Ridley Hall is the chapel of Beltingham, of the antiquity of which a very large yew-tree, in its yard, is a standing memorial. Further up, on a neck of land, at the confluence of the Allen and Harsingdale Burn, are seen the crumbling walls, and broken gateway of STAWARD LE PEEL, an ancient fortress; granted, in 1386, by Edward

* Carter's Hist. of Camb. pp. 149, 308. Bowyer's Anecd.

Edward, Duke of York, to the Friars Eremites, of Hexham, to be held by the annual payment of five marks.* The scenery about this place is also of the most striking and interesting nature, consisting of woods, rocks, ruined walls, water, cottages, and patches of rich tillage land. This peel or castle was the residence of John Bacon, Esq. a gentleman, who raised a large fortune by mining, and who is said to have been a descendant from the same stock as Lord Chancellor Bacon, by a monk of Wetherall Abbey, who conformed and married. Mr. Bacon's son and successors, settled at Newton Cap, in the county of Durham. He had seven daughters, six of whom married to opulent gentlemen in Northumberland, and one died unmarried.

CARRVORAN (*i. e.* the town and castle) is situated about twelve or thirteen chains, within both the walls, and near the western boundary of this county. It is an oblong square, and contains about four acres and a half. The ramparts and ditch around it are now, as in Horsley's time, very conspicuous. Its ancient name appears to have been *Magna*, where the Notitia places the Cohors Secunda Dalmatorum, though no inscription has been found to strengthen the conjecture. The great military way from Walwick Chesters, passes a little to the south of this fort; and the Maiden-way goes through it to Beau Castle, which is about six miles to the north of it.†

"Abundance of antiquities of various sorts have been dug up in this station and *town*. When I was last here I purchased a Roman ring, with a victory, on a Cornelian, but coarse:"‡ Three altars have been found here, dedicated to the God Vitires. § On a funeral stone, cut in two, and used as steps in the stairs of a house, Mr. Horsley found an inscription which he reads thus: Dis Manibus Aurelia Pubeo Voma vixit annos.... Aurelius Pubeo Naso pientissimae filiae dicat.

* Wallis, Vol. II. p. 32. † Warb. Vall. Rom. p. 75.
‡ Horsley, p. 230 § Ib. Gough's Camd. Vol. III. p. 232.

This inscription, IMR CAES FLAV VAL CoNSTANTINo PIO····NOB CAESAR is noticed by Warburton, in his map. The stone on which it is cut, is broken in two. It is curious, says Horsley, but needs no explication. The three following fragments of inscriptions are in the Durham library: VÆ IVLGN····NUST AC. AF·····COH IIII BR····· ANToNNIA··L L M. *i. e.* Minervæ Julius Gnenius actarius cohortis quartae Britonum Antoniniae *votum solvit* libentissime merito.—*Horsley.* The actarius provided corn for the armies; and an Antonine Cohort, is mentioned in Gruter.* PM CA ····HADR····LEG II····APIATORIO, the reading of which is very uncertain, though Mr. Horsley says, "I take it to have been erected to the Emperor Hadrian by the Legio secundo Augusta, and that Apiatorium was the name of the place at that time." Perhaps of the three the last is most perfect. FORTVI····AUDAC. ROMANUS C. LEG VI XX AVG. It is the fragment of an altar dedicated to Fortune by Audacius Romanus, centurion in the legions, sixth, twentieth, and second, which last was called Augusta. There are a few inscriptions besides these in the Britannia Romana, belonging to Caervoran, but none of them any way curious.

A human skeleton was found at the east end of this station, when the military road into Cumberland was made: also some years after, a small fair Roman altar inscribed DEO VITERINO, and a small brass lar, both in the possession of Mrs. Bacon, of Newbrough. In 1760 was found a fine relief of a Roman soldier fourteen inches and a half high, and nine broad. Above its left shoulder was a lion recumbent, with a deer struggling under its paws.†

The four following inscriptions are copied from Hutchinson:

1. AEL S····
AVREL····
MARTI····

2. CLAVDI
LXXX

3. IMP

* P. celx. n. 1. et p. xl. n. 2. † Wallis, Vol. II. p. 5.

3. IMP....
ANTON....
VAL R....
Q. S. F.

4. AVC....
NUMERI....
MAGNCES
....LE....

The first of which is on a fragment of a tablet, and has an altar in relief under it. The third, perhaps, ought to be read:—Imperator Antonius....vallo renovato....quae supra fecit; and the fourth may relate to some band of soldiers quartered at *Magnum*.

Mr. Brand, however, saw at Glenwhelt, a stone found at Caervoran, and inscribed—CIVTAS DVMNI, *i. e.* the city of the hill. "I saw here," says he, "October the seventh, 1783, five square bases of columns and some curious gutter stones. On opening a tumulus, on the east of this station, there was discovered a remarkable hollow sepulchral stone, which contained a small quantity of a black liquid, and two gold rings." From this place he also brought the two following inscriptions:—

1. DEO M
ET NVMINIB
IVL : ACTAR · CO
ET AOTIVS · C
ET S. VAL GA
CCVS A SOLO
RR. V. S.

2. C. MAR
ANTO
VIATO
G S.F

The first of which he translates:—

"To the God Mars and the deities....Julius the actarius of the cohort, and Aotius the centurion, and Servius Valerius Gracchus erected this from the ground, performing a vow."

To the second he affixes this reading:—

"Centuria Marci Anton' viatoribus gratia sua fecit." *

We found the two following in the east end of Mr. Carrick's stable:—C. CALERI . CASSIA . IN BVPXIX. The letters of which are rather faint, but we believe they are here faithfully copied. The next is very perfect:—COH . I . BATAVORUM F.

* Hist. of Newc. Vol. I. p. 612.

"The first Cohort of Batavians made this." The Notitia places this cohort at Procolitia, or Carawbrugh, where we find Melaccinius Marcellus, its prefect, dedicating an altar to Fortune. We also found on the garden wall a centurial stone, too rude and time-worn to be legible; and this fragment of an inscription—GERMA · R····C . NE. There were also here a part of a statue from the knee downwards, a millstone, an unscribed altar, and several other curious Roman sculptures, scattered in different parts of Mr. Carrick's premises.

Scarce a furlong hence, says Camden, on a high hill, the Roman wall remains fifteen feet high, and nine broad, faced with hewn stones on both sides. The finest specimens at this day are to be found on the high grounds between this place and Shewingsheels.

WALL TOWN was anciently a castellated building, and the seat of John Ridley, Esq. in the reign of Edward the Sixth. The estate and manor at present belong to Mrs. Bacon, of Newbrough. Here is a fine clear fountain, which has formerly been enclosed, and in which Paulinus baptised one of the Saxon kings, perhaps Edwin, in whose reign the wells by the waysides were supplied with iron dishes for the convenience of travellers.

GREAT CHESTERS, or *Æsica*, was garrisoned in the time of the Notitia, by the cohors prima Astorum. It is about the same size as Caervoran. The ditch around it is remarkably fresh on all sides but the east. The walls in several places partly standing. The whole area covered with heaps of ruins, amongst which are distinguishable the Pretorium fifty yards long and forty broad, the Questorium, the remains of a temple, and other public edifices. Some pieces of an iron-gate and hinges were found in the ruins not long ago. A paved way fifteen chains long, leads from its southern gate to the main military way. Camden dared not to visit this place for fear of mosstroopers. "They told us," says he, "that Chester was a very great place." Here is the following inscription:—

PRO

PRO SALVTE
DESIDIENIAE
··LIANI · PRAE
ET SVAS.
POSVIT VOT
AO SOLVIT LIBE
NS TVSCO ET BAS
SO COSS.

"I think," says Horsley, "voto in the fifth line must be ex voto, as usual, and then there is no difficulty as to the meaning." Tuscus and Bassus were consuls in 208.

Horsley has seven inscriptions and carvings found here, three of which are curious, and still remain in the neighbourhood. One is a symbolical sculpture in relief, on a large stone, at the bottom of which are two boars, with their heads towards each other, and a tree on each side of each of them; above them, two eagles, standing on the boughs of trees, and each of them supporting on its wings a victory, which holds a vexillum in the middle of the sculpture. This is manifestly indicative of the Roman eagles having been victoriously borne through the Caledonian woods, as the wild boar was the Roman type of the people of that country. The next is a tomb-stone, with a head carved at the top, and this inscription below it:—D. M. AEL MERCVRIALI CORNICVL VACIA. SOROR FECIT. The cornicularius was an inferior officer under a tribune. The third, also a sepulchral stone, has an ill-designed human figure upon it, and beneath it this inscription:—DIS M. PERVICAE FILIA F, *i. e.* Dis Manibus Pervicae filia fecit.

But the most remarkable inscription this place has produced was dug out of the ruins of a large building in the upper part of this station:—

IMP · CÆS M. AVR SEV
RUS ALEXANDER · PFE
AVG HORREVM VETV
STATE CONLAPSVM M
COH II ASTVRVM S. A
A SOLO RESTITVERVNT
PROVINCIA RECN *T*····
MAXIMO LEG. *VV. APRO*
SAL MARTI *MED. LEGA*
TVS CO. II. ET DEXT.

Camden found the altar bearing this inscription at Melkrigg, a hamlet on South Tyne. It was copied into Speed's Map of Northumberland from the original in the Cotton Collection, which at present is at Cambridge. In Horsley's time it was much defaced. The Syrian Goddess was the same as Cybele, Ceres, Tellus, &c. Calpurnius was propretor in Britain under Marcus Aurelius. The word Hammiorum, Mr. Horsley supposed had been miscopied by his predecessors, and had been Gallorum in the original.

To this place also belongs a sculpture representing Mercury, with his caduceus in his left hand, and in his right a purse suspended over the head of a Camillus, pouring incense on an altar, inscribed, DEO MERCVRIO. This stone, and some Roman sandals found here, were given to the Royal Society, by Mr. Warburton.* The bricks at this place are inscribed, LEG. VI. V. Legio Sexta victrix. A large altar was found here, with a deer in the centre, leaning against a tree, and two fawns in niches below, all in relief. It has been split in two, and the sculptured part of it is at present used as a rubbing stone for cattle, in a field north of the via vincialis. Near it we were also shewn a stone, inscribed to the Diis Manibus, and in memory of a person, who had lived twenty-four years, three months, and eight days, but his name too much obliterated to be legible. The stone was discovered by the plough. At the west end of the Well-house is this inscription, where it was first taken notice of by Mr. Wallis:—

MARTI VICTORI
COH . III . NERVIORVM
PRAFECT. I CANINIVS

A strong line passes on all sides of the stone but the bottom, which makes it appear that the inscription, in its present state, is only a fragment. It has been much injured by the weather and the grinding of cart-wheels against it.

In razing the foundations of the castellum of the wall at Lough-end-crag, or Milk-ing-gap, about a mile west of Housesteads, a very large stone was found, inscribed—

IM P

* Horsley, p. 227.

IMP. CAES. TRAIAN
HADRIANI AVG
LEG. II. AVG.
A PLATORIO NEPOTE LEG. PR. PR.

The stone was removed to Ridley Hall. It is remarkable for mentioning Hadrian, and the propretor Platorius Nepos, and being found in one of the castella of the wall usually attributed to Severus. It seems to destroy all accepted criticism respecting the authors of these two barriers, and to induce the belief that they were the labour of successive emperors, each adding, altering, or repairing, as the exigencies of different times required.

HOUSESTEADS, called by Dr. Stukely, the Palmyra of Britain, is the *Borcovicus* of the Notitia, where the first cohort of the Tungrians, a people of Belgic Gaul, living on both sides the Maese, were in garrison. The great stone barrier running on the steep and rocky brow of a high hill forms its northern rampart. Its area measures five chains by seven; the ditch is obscure, but the ramparts very apparent. The lines and angles of the different buildings, that stood within it may be distinctly traced amid confused heaps of ruins; stones carved into curious forms; embossed figures of gods and warriors; and broken pillars, of very different degrees in size and excellency in workmanship. We found the thresholds of certain buildings lately bared of rubbish, by the curiosity of former visitors, where appeared the plinth of a pilaster, finely moulded on two sides; remains of a floor waved with parallel lines; and three freestone steps, much worn by use. Near these is also a small circular building, widening upwards, with a narrow way into it; the place, perhaps, which Mr. Brand supposed had been an oven. On the east side of the south gate is an oblong building, projecting about thirty feet, through the ramparts, and having the base of a circular tower or staircase at its north east corner: its walls at present are about five feet high; and its interior, about ten feet wide, is filled up with stones and rubbish. On the

the south and west of this station the ruins of a town are large and manifest, where the columns of the temples, the statues of the gods, and the altars of Roman piety lie in melancholy desolation. On the edge of the brook east of this place we saw remains of a bath, about thirty-eight feet by fifty, the floor of which is visible, and the hypocaustum, we believe, entire. On Chapel Hill, about three furlongs to the south, is a large ruinous heap, supposed to be the remains of a considerable temple.* West of this, where the way leads from the station, we also saw the lines of buildings, a large stone apparently the pedestal of a statue, and a broken statue which was lately dug up in making a drain. The hill sides here, where the land is good, are all terraced, after the ancient method, mentioned by Josephus, of cultivating swiftly-sloping grounds.

The Britannia Romana has sixteen inscriptions and sculptures found here, some of which are very perfect and curious. We select the following from that work :—

I O M
ET NVMINIBVS
AVG . COH . I . TV
NGRORVM
MIL . CVI PRAE
ST Q. VERIVS
SVPERSTIS
PRAEFECTVS.

Jovi Optimo Maximo et numinibus Augusti cohors prima Tungrorum militum cui praeest Quintus Verius Superstes praefectus.

This altar is built up in the chimney jamb, in the house in the valley, below the station.

I O M
E NVMINIBUS AUG
COH . I . TVNGROR
CVI PRAE EST Q. IVLIVS
MAXIMVS

This

* Hors. Brit. Rom. p. 219.

This altar has been dedicated by the same cohort and prefect as the last, but the word MAXIMVS is partly worn out, and the word PREAFECTUS entirely gone.

I .. ..
ET NVMINIBUS
AVG. COH. I
TVNGROR.
CUI PRAEST
Q. IVL. MAX I
MUS . PRAEF

Jovi *Optimo Maximo* et numinibus Augusti cohors prima Tungrorum cui praest Quintus Julius Maximus praefectus.

D E O
MARTI QVIN
FLORIVS MA
TERNVS PRAEF
COH I TVNG
V S L M

Deo Marti Quintus Florius Maternus praefectus cohortis primae Tungrorum votum solvit libens merito.

Besides these there are three mutilated inscriptions one: mentions the sixth legion; the second is, MATRIBVS COH. I. TVNGR ..... ; and the third, a defaced altar of Jupiter. The sculptures in alto-relievo: the first of them, a flying victory, with one foot touching a globe; the second and third, figures of Roman soldiers; the fourth, three female figures, similarly clothed, and in similar attitudes, seated in a chair, and holding with both hands a cylindrical vessel; and the fifth, three other female figures in seperate chairs, each differently clothed, and the middle one having its legs tied to posts with two cords; the sixth, also, has upon it three female figures, each standing, and of ruder work than the former, and, above their heads, three fishes, one of them a sea-goat; and, the seventh, "a small statue of a soldier in the Roman military habit, holding a spear in his right hand, resting with his left upon a shield."

"There

" There is one inscription more which belongs to this place, that was published in the Transactions, by Dr. Hunter, several years ago." It was imperfect when he saw it, and is given thus:—

NI VENO RI
G OFERSIONIS
ROMVLO ALIMAHI
MANSVETIO SENICIONI
REVINCE QVARTIONIS
ERESI PROCVRAVIT. DELF
VS RAVTIONIS . EX . G . S.

....ni Venotrionis [filio]
g.... Ofersionis
Romulo Alimahionis
Mansuetio Senecionis
Revincio Quartionis
eregi procuravit Delfius
Rautionis ex gratia sua

This has evidently been a sepulchral monument, but it is extremely obscure and barbarous, and difficult to decypher.

CARROWBRUGH, or PROCOLITIA, governed, when the Notitia was made, by the first Batavian cohort, stands on elevated ground, rich, green, irregular, with large heaps of ruins. The military way that accompanies the barriers over these hills, goes through the middle of this fort, the stone barrier forming its northern rampart, which, with that on the east, is still very visible. There are no remains of the ditch, but on the west, where lie the ruins of a considerable town, and, in the beginning of last century, was found a well, plentifully supplied with fine water, seven feet square, cased with ashlar work, and as appears by the ruins on its brink, once covered with a house. It is supposed to have been a bath. There is a broken pillar by it.

This place has not hitherto been found rich in antiquities. It has, however, produced two very fine altars, dedicated to Fortune

Fortune, both removed, by Mr. Warburton, to the library in Durham. Their inscriptions are as follow:—

FORTVNAE
COH. I. BATAVOR
CVI PRAEEST
MELACCINIVS
MARCELLVS PRÆ.

FORTVNAE
P R
C IVL RAETICVS C. LEG. VI VIC.

The first of these is curious and useful, inasmuch as it confirms the evidence of the Notitia, that this place was anciently called Procolitia. The second is read by Horsley thus:—Fortunæ populi Romani Caius Julius Raeticus centurio legionis sextæ victricis; but that antiquary, by mistake, makes it belong to Little-Chesters.*

A stone, in the form of an altar without a focus, was found here by Warburton, with this inscription:—D. M. D. TRANQUILA SEVERA, PRO SE ET SVIS. V. S. LM "Dedicated to the Genii of Spirits, by Tranquilla Severa, for her and hers." Mr. Wallis mentions a relief of Neptune, with his trident, reclining, in a house-end here; it has, since his time, been removed into the walks at Hallington.

Half a mile south-west of this place, and similar to it in size, is an exploratory, or summer fort, called Broom-Dykes; and near to Housesteads is *Busy-Gap*, a break in the mountain, said to have been one of the inlets by which the Caledonians most frequently invaded the provinces south of the wall. Mr. Horsley thought the castle at SHEWING-SHIELDS had no appearance of being Roman. "The castle itself (now in ruins) and the motes beside it, are undoubtedly of much later date. And I observed several trenches thereabouts; particularly a large and long one, which reaches from Busy-Gap cross the

* Warb. Val. Rom. p. 56 and 69.

passes between the mountains. But these are all on the north side of the wall, and must certainly have been made in later times, for securing the neighbouring passes. Probably they are no older than the times of our famous *mosstroopers*, who might conveniently shelter themselves among those hideous mountains and mosses."* There are many superstitious tales about enchanted warriors in a cavern near Shewing-Shields; and a little west of it, near the wall, is a high rude stone, called by the common people King Ethel's Chair.

Between the South Tyne and Carraw is NEWBROUGH, which probably derives its name from being built out of the ruins of Procolitia, or from its proximity to it. This village stands conspicuous, in the escheats of the tenth of Elizabeth, for the great number of its freeholders. Here is the seat of Mrs. Bacon, and the Rev. Henry Wastal, her relative by an ancestor of his, rector of Simonburn, marrying one of the Bacons of Staward Peel. There are very excellent whetstones obtained near an old deserted lead-mine above Newbrough.†

WHITFIELD HALL, a seat of William Ord, Esq. is situated on the West Allen. William, King of Scotland, confirmed the manor of Whitfield to the church of Hexham, of which it was held, in 1364,‡ by John de Whitfield, at the annual rent of 16s. 4d. It continued in this family till its last proprietor, Matthew Whitfield, Esq. who was high sheriff for this county, in 1728, sold it to the Ords of Fenham. The mansion-house was rebuilt about twenty years since, and great improvements made about it. The high and bold rocks, and the hanging woods, thick with hollies, form a fine contrast with the neatness of the lawn and the pleasure grounds. The Whitfields of this place were usually styled *earls*, and after they became extinct this local title passed to the Whitfields of Clargill.

LANGLEY CASTLE, the capital seat of the barony of Tyndale, was held of the crown, in the time of Henry the First, by Adam de Tyndale, by service of one knight's fee; and continued

* Brit. Rom. p. 147. † Wallis, I. p. 64. ‡ Wallis, II. 33.

tinued in his male descendants till the time of Henry the Third,* when the family inheritance was divided between two co-heiresses, and this part came to Richard de Bolteby, by marriage of one of them. From the Boltebys, from like cause, it passed to the Lucys, Barons of Egermont and Cockermouth, with whom it remained five descents, when issue male again failing it became the possession of Gilbert de Umfranvill, Earl of Anegos, by marriage of Maud, sister and heir of Anthony Lord Lucy. On the demise of the Earl of Anegos, his widow married, in 1383, Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland,† a circumstance which united the large possessions of the Umfranvills and Lucys in the Percy family, with whom this castle and manor remained in 1567;‡ but it afterwards became the property of the Ratcliffes, of Dilston, with whom it continued till it was forfeited by James, the last Earl of Derwentwater, in 1745. It now belongs to Greenwich Hospital.

This castle is well situated on the south side of the Tyne, and though it has of late years been barbarously handled, it is by far the most perfect ruin of the kind in the county. It is in the form of the letter H, its walls near seven feet thick, its inside twenty-four feet by eighty, and the towers, one at each corner, about sixty-six feet high. The rooms remaining are all arched with stone; those in the towers are fourteen feet square, and the four small fire-rooms on the east, each eleven feet by thirteen. The ground-rooms, on the east and west, four on each side, have been much injured by being used as farm offices. The windows which have lighted the great hall, kitchen, &c. are large, those in the chambers mostly small, and built at an angle that would prevent the entrance of an enemy's arrow. The stone of which this fabric is built is yet so remarkably fresh, as to exhibit in their primitive sharpness the characters of the masons. The whole of the inside is red with the marks of fire.

HAYDON-BRIDGE has a charter for a market on Tuesdays,

* Testa. de Nevil. p. 381. † Coll. Peerage, Vol. VI. p. 671.

‡ Lawl. MS. f. 14.

and a fair on July the twenty-first, and three days after, procured by the first Anthony, Lord Lucy, but both long since fallen into disuse. The bridge here, in Camden's time, was 'wooden, and out of repair.' At present it is of stone, and consists of five arches, three of them built in 1809 and 1810. The church is a plain, neat, and new edifice, with a square tower, finished with a quadrangular spire. Opposite to it, on the south bank of the Tyne, is the Free-School and Hospitals, founded and endowed by the Reverend John Shaftoe, A. M. Vicar of Netherwarden. The endowment consists of a valuable estate at Mousin, near Bamborough, which the trustees considering as more than sufficient for the maintenance of the establishment, an act of parliament was procured, in 1785, for turning its proceeds into a more useful channel, and enlarging and amending the old constitutions of the charity. By this act the trustees are empowered to build and maintain alms-houses for old and decayed inhabitants of the townships of Haydon and Woodshields; to provide a schoolmistress to teach reading, writing, knitting, &c. to erect suitable houses for the two ushers, and to regulate their's and the master's salary. This act provides that the master's salary shall not be less than 100l. nor more than 150l. a year; and that the two ushers shall be paid such annual salaries as shall seem meet to the trustees, so that the salary of the first be not less than 35l. nor that of the second less than 20l. a year.

NETHERWARDEN is very sweetly situated between the two Tynes, and near their confluence. Its church has been lately rebuilt; it is a vicarage, its rectory appropriated to the church of Hexham, and has under it the chapels of Haydon and Newbrough. The Scotch army, that plundered the western parts of this county, while King David ravaged its shores, encamped at "Waredun," near Hexham, the twenty-fifth of January, 1138.* Between this place and Walwick Grange is the fragment of a *cross*, with a sheathed sword cut upon it.

CHESTERS, EAST-CHESTERS, or WALWICK-CHESTERS, anciently

* Scrip. X. col. 259.

ciently *Cilurnum*, the station of the Ala Secunda Astorum, is 140 yards by 200, on the outside of the ramparts, which, with the ditch and large ruins in their area were extant till of late years,* but now grass-grown, though their lines are still perceptible, and the ground within them very irregular with foundations of buildings. The suburbs have been between the fort and the river, over which remains of a Roman bridge here can easily be traced in dry seasons. The bases of the piers are like fine pavements, the stones large, and joined together with horizontal dove-tail cramps, several of which we saw in their original situation, and others at Mr. Clayton's house. Each of these large stones has, in the centre of its uppermost superficies, a lewis, or poising hole, narrower at the top than the bottom, an invention attributed to modern times, but evidently ancient. There is a vault in the area of this station, which has not yet been cleaned out; and behind Mr. Clayton's house, several yards of the Roman wall, and its ditch filled with water, in great perfection.

There are several sculptures and inscriptions found here, mentioned in the Britannia Romana, but none of them any way remarkable, except an altar dedicated "to the *Dii Manes*, by Fabius Honoratus, tribune of the first cohort of Vangiones," a people from Belgic Gaul, "and Aurelia Egleciane, the parents of Fabia Honorata, their most charming daughter."

In a summer-house in Mr. Clayton's lawn are several antiquities, the produce of this station, the most curious of which are the following. A broken altar, too imperfect to discover

* Horsley, p. 143. Brand's Newc. I. 609. "The site of the Prætorium, at the eastern end, is very distinguishable, with two entrances through the vallum, answering to each side of the Prætorium, and a road leading down to the river. The ground within the vallum is crowded with the ruins of stone buildings, which appear to have stood in lineal directions, forming streets, two on the south side and two on the north, intersected in the middle by a cross street from north to south. On the south side, without the vallum and foss, many ruins of buildings appear, and some on the north." Hutc. I. 73.

any thing from, except that it mentions Ulpius, who was Lieutenant of Britain in the reign of Commodus.* A statue of *Europa*, of very pretty workmanship, in free-stone, but broken into three pieces, and the head and arms of Europa, and the legs, head, and tail, of the bull wanting. The feet of the bull rest upon a long scaley fish, symbolical of the sea:—

Ausa est quoque regia virgo
Nescia quem premeret, tergo considere tauri.
Tum Deus à terra, siccoque à littore, sensim
Falsa pedum primis vestigia ponit in undis.
Inde abit ulterius, mediique per æquora ponti
Fert prædam. Pavet hæc; littusque ablata relictum
Respicit, et dextra cornu tenet; altera dorso
Imposita est: tremulæ sinuantur flamine vestes.

OVID. METAM.

The following inscription is upon a large free-stone table, at present broken into four pieces. There is a neat moulding round the inscription, much of which has been purposely erased. The letters in the original are much complicated, but perfectly legible:—

IMP CAES.....AVREL
AVG..... .....
.....P.....B. P.....C^OS PP DIVI
DIVI SEVER. NEP.....
CAESAR. IMPER.....
ALÆ. II. ASTVR.....VSTAT.....
ERVNT. PER. MARIVM. VALER
INSTANTE. SEPTIMIO NILO. P
DEDICATVM. III. KAL. NOVEM. GR..EO ET SEL....

Concerning this, it is observable, that it has been made in the time of Alexander Severus, by the second wing of the Asti, to commemorate the rebuilding of some edifice, which had become ruinous through age, and which was dedicated on the third of the kalends of November. The ruined granery at Great Chesters was also repaired by the second *cohort* of the Asti, under the same

* Ziphil. l. lxxii. pp. 820—824.

same emperor, who commenced his reign, A. D. 222, and was murdered in 225. We suspect, from the space in this inscription, between COS and PP, that its date should be fixed in 226, when this Severus was second time consul. Lampridius says of him: "in Britania (ut alii volunt in Gallia) in vico cui *Sicila* nomen est eum occiderunt." The erasures on this stone prove that he fell into disgrace with the soldiers. Alfwald, King of Northumberland, in A. D. 788, was slain in a place called by Hoveden and others,* "*Scile-Chester juxta murum.*" It may, perhaps, be thought a wide conjecture, to suppose that Sicila, Cilurnum, and Scile-Chester, are names of the same place, and that the ground here has been sanctified with the blood of the benevolent Alexander Severus, and of Alfwald, called by Simeon of Durham, Rex pius et justus.

At this station was also found a fine consular medalion of Hadrian, four inches in circumference; the legend round the head, *Hadriano Aug. Cæsari*, and on the obverse, *S. P. Q. R. Optimo Principi. S. C.* encircled with a civic garland.†

On the west side of this station, finely situated on rich and rising ground, and commanding an extensive and well-cultivated prospect, is CHESTERS, the seat of Nathaniel Clayton, Esq. It was built by John Errington, Esq. of Walwick Grange, who afterwards sold it to Adam Askew, Esq. patentee, high-sheriff of the county of Durham, and of whom it was soon after purchased by its present possessor.

WALWICK GRANGE stands on a rock, in a low and secluded situation, on the brink of the North Tyne. The ancient dwelling was built after the manner of the border towers: the additions to it in the modern style. It was the seat of Anthony Errington, Esq. in 1551; and of his lineal descendant, John, in the latter part of last century. The estate is leasehold, under the Northumberland family. There are several Roman antiquities, brought from Cilurnum, and chiefly of the sepulchral

 kind,

* Sim. Dun. Col. 110. Ric. Hagust. Col. 298. Chron. Hen. Hunt.

† Wallis, II. 68.

kind, in the garden-wall here; but none of them are very interesting.

WALWICK was purchased by the Rev. Cuthbert Wilson, son of Justice Wilson, by Mr. Dixon, who sold it to Henry Tulip, Esq. of Fallowfield. It is, at present, the residence of the Rev. Robert Clark. The prospect from it is exceedingly fine, reaching as far as Swinburne Castle, on one side, and to the plantations of Minster Acres and the blue mountains, in the district of Weardale, on the other. Concerning the plinth of a pillar, in the corner of the Stack Yard, on the edge of the military way here, Mr. Hutton observes: "I saw a beautiful pedestal, pannelled, moulded, and fluted, in perfection, two feet by eighteen inches, no doubt a Roman relic, degraded to a shabby prop, as a thing of no value."*

NORTH TINDALE.

The *parish* of SIMONBURN is remarkable for being the largest in the diocese of Durham. It extends from the Roman Wall to Liddesdale, in Scotland, a space of thirty-two measured miles; in which are only two chapels of ease, Bellingham and Falstone. "In Northe Tyndale is but one paroche church, called Simonsburne. In it is aliquot sacella. Sens I hard that Simonsburne is in Sowth Tyndale, and that in Northe Tindale is onely Belingeham chapel, longinge to Simonsburne."† The aliquot sacella here mentioned, were probably the chapels of Houghton Castle, Kirkfield, Falstone, and the one at Burnskirk, on the south side of Dead-Water, where some grave-stones still remain. Kirkfield Chapel is about half a mile from Wark, and, by an arch and two pillars in its north wall, appears to have consisted of two aisles: a tomb-stone remains at it, dated A. D. 1686. The parish church is dedicated to St. Simon. Edward the First took the advowson of it, with other property,

* Roman Wall, p. 211. † Lel. It. Vol. VII. fol. 74.

property, from the see of Durham, in the time of Anthony Beck, because that prelate refused to observe a treaty the king had made between him and the Prior of Durham. John Darcy left the advowson of it to Queen Philippa, who gave it to Windsor College. It fell to the crown by the attainder of the last Earl of Derwentwater, and at present belongs to Greenwich Hospital. Its revenues are upwards of 5000l. a year; but an act of parliament has lately passed, to divide it into five rectories, after the decease of the present incumbent, and to bestow them upon naval chaplains. A scull, says Wallis, was found in a grave in this church, with the figure of a large scallop shell on the back of it, and of a torcular shell at one of the auditories. The chancel has once had considerable elegance, its door-way on the south side being rich Gothic, and its original windows long, spear-pointed, and finely ornamented, but now walled up. At the east end of the south aisle is the effigies of the Rev. Cuthbert Ridley, a child, and a youth, cut in stone, with an inscription, dated 1625. Mr. WALLIS, author of the history of this county, was several years curate of this parish.

Simonburn Castle formerly belonged to the Herons of Chipchase, who sold it to the Allgood family. "It was pulled down, to satisfy a violent curiosity the country people had for searching, like King John at Corbridge, and Nero at Carthage, for hidden treasure; where they succeeded no better than those two royal money-hunters, who got nothing but rubbish for their pains. Part of the west end was rebuilt, 1766, with two small turrets at the angles."*

NUNWICK, also, came by purchase from the Herons to the Allgoods. This seat was erected by Sir Lancelot Allgood, Knight, who was high-sheriff for this county in 1746. It is a handsome building, of white free-stone. On the west it is screened with a fine wood, and from the terrace the prospect over the fertile banks of the North Tyne is extremely rich and diversified. In a field adjoining this house were five upright pillars, in

* Wallis, II. 55.

Borrows, and Hawgston, belonging to Sir John Wetherington, beyng thought mete places" for the keeper of Tindale to live in.* It is quite demolished. Its area has formed an oblong square, in length about 120 yards, defended on three sides by a deep foss, ten yards broad; the east side lying on a steep descent. At each corner have been turrets; and traces of an outward wall appear.†

REDESDALE

is the name of a district, comprising the parishes of *Elsdon* and *Corsenside*. Richard de Umfranvill held the vale of Redesdale, by the service of guarding it from thieves;‡ and his successor, Gilbert, held it "per regalem potestatem."§ But, as this district continued a nest of lawless freebooters, it was enacted by parliament, in 1420, that the statute of the second year of Henry the Fifth, against the robbers of Tindale, should be extended to those of Redesdale, "that they should be outlawed, and their property forfeited." Harbottle Castle, and the manor of Otterburne, were held of the king, in capite, by Robert Umfranvill, in 1428, "by the service of keeping the valley of Riddesdale free from *wolves* and robbers, which service was adjudged to be great serjantry. Upon search," at this time, "it was found in one of the books of knights' fees, in the custody of the king's remembrancer, that Gilbert de Humfranvill held Riddesdale *per regalem potestatem*, by royal power. There was no species of tenure in England known by the name of tenure by royal power.

* Sir R. Sadl. St. Pap. Vol. I. p. 490. † Hutch. I. 193.

‡ Test. de Nev. p. 392. The printed copy of this record makes no mention of wolves or foxes; but a Harlean MS. of the time of Henry the Third, says, in one part—"Idem Henricus tenuit de Rege in capite in com' Northumbriæ manerium de Laxton—per serjentiam *ad fugand' lupum cum canibus suis per quatuor com';*" and in another part—"idem Vitali tenuit manerium de Laxton—de Rege in capite per serjentiam *currendi ad lupum ad mandatum Regis.*"

§ Ib. 385.

power. I do humbly apprehend, that in this case the tenure was barony, accompanied with a full power of a Lord Marcher foreagainst Scotland, like that baronial power which was anciently vested in the Earl of Chester, for the time being, or some other great Lord Marcher foreagainst Wales."* In 1567 this 'province' belonged to the crown.† Lord Redesdale is the greatest landholder here, but the Duke of Northumberland, lord paramount of the district, for which he holds a court-leet at Elsdon.

RISINGHAM is supposed by Camden to be a compound of Old English and German, and to mean *the Habitation of Giants*, because Risingberg, in Germany, signifies 'the mountain of giants.' Wallis says it means '*the hamlet on a rising ground.*' Riceingahæm signifies *the home of the ozier meadows.* This is the modern name of a Roman station on the western branch of Watling Street, twelve miles from the wall, and on the brink of the river Rede. Its area contains three acres, three roods, and twenty-six perches, and is covered with the lines of ancient buildings. The walls are high ridges of ruins; they make a flexure at the north gate, where a sluggish back-water from the Rede lies against them. The ditch is in many places very visible. Opposite this station lie many large stones in the river, with holes in them, somewhat in the manner of lewis-holes, as if they had been used in a bridge. Forty years since a mile pillar was standing, a mile south of the station; and at present there is one used as a gate-post, opposite the door of the inn at Woodbridge. Watling Street is very visible in this neighbourhood, and in one place has left the ancient appellation *leam*, to two farm-houses, as it has done in *Leaming* Lane, in Yorkshire, and as the Roman way, Raking-dike, from Lanchester to South Shields, has done in *Leam Lane*, in the parish of Jarrow. "Here," says Camden, "are many and considerable remains of antiquity; and the inhabitants say that the god *Mogon* a long while defended this place against some

* Madox, Bar. Ang. p. 244. † Esch. 10 Eliz.

some soldan or Pagan Prince. Nor do they speak at random; for that this god was worshipped here, appears from two altars lately taken out of the river here, with the following inscriptions:"—DEO MOGONTI CAD. ET. N. DN AVG. M. G. SECUNDINVS BF. COS. HABITANCI PRIMA STA... PRO SE ET SVIS POS. This is in Trinity College, Cambridge. Both Camden and Woodford begin with DEO, but no room or trace of it appeared to Horsley, and Woodford has TAI... instead of TA, in the sixth line. This *Mogon* was a local deity of the Cadeni, who are the same as the Gadeni of Ptolomy. The *Beneficiarii* were soldiers who attended the chief officers of the army, and were exempt from duty, as we learn from Festus, somewhat like our cadets. *Prima Statio* may imply that it was the first northern station at the time the altar was erected;* or that it was the first station north of the wall. *Habitancum* was evidently its Roman name:—DEO MOVNO CAD. INVENTVS DO V. S. This, perhaps, also belongs to the god Mogon.—D. M. BLESCIVS DIOVICVS FILIAE SVAE VIXSIT ANVM. I. ET DIE. XXI. In Trinity College. The rudeness of the letters in the original, their scattered position, and the stops on each side the I, are very remarkable.†—MIL CVI PRAEEST. M PEREGRINIUS SVPER. TRIB.——COH. Ī. VANG FECIT CVRANTE IVL. PAVLO. TRIB. In Trinity College. DEAE TERTIANAE SACRVM AEL. TIMOTHEA P V. S. LL. M. The original lost, and nothing known respecting the goddess Tertiana. HERCULI IVL PAVLLVS TRIB V. S. On an altar, used as a gate-post, on the south side of the station in Horsley's time. ...AVR. ANTONINI. PII. AVG. M. MESSORIVS DILIGENS TRIBVNVS SACRVM. At Trinity College. There is no doubt but pro salute imperatoris M. has gone before, and perhaps the altar has been to Jupiter Optimus Maximus, or to Jupiter and the numina Augusti, as at Benwell. M. A. Antoninus, called Philosophus,

* Gough's Camd. III. 233. † Horsley, No. XC.

Philosophus, had wars here, and his legate, Calpurnius Agricola, is named in an inscription or two in these parts; and I am apt to think, that both this inscription, and some others in the north, belong to that emperor."* DEO. INVICTo HERCVLI. SACR. L. AEMIL. SALVANVS TRIB. CoH. I VANGI V. S. L. M. This is also in Trinity College, very entire, large, and beautiful; on one side an ox, on the other the priest's veil and patera.†—...I COS CvI PRE N. AVREL. CARI. VETvsTATE CoNLAPS. This is lost; Mr. Gale observes, "that vetustate conlabsum, signifies a falling to decay, and not a destruction by fire, war, or other enemy than age and neglect." NVMINIB AVGVSTOR COH IIII GAL. EQ. FEC. "This long stone," says Camden, "has an elegant relief, far surpassing the rest in execution, inscribed, by the fourth cohort of Gaulish horse, to the divinities of the emperors." There is an engraving from the original, which is in Trinity College, in Speed's map of this county. Mars and Victory are set in a niche on each side of the stone. "The emperors, in honour of whom it was erected, I take to be Severus and Caracalla, who were much hereabout, and, I believe, were possessed of this very station."‡ These ten preceding inscriptions are all mentioned by Camden: the three following were first published in Warburton's map. MARTI VICTORI...VS PVBLI...IVS. TRIB. V. S. L. M. There is Mars and Victory on the capital, and an ox's head on the base of this altar.—FORTVNA AVG AEL PROCVLIN V. S. The third of these is a dedication MARTI VICTORI, by a tribune; but it is very imperfect. Dr. Hunter § first noticed the following fragment, which Hutchinson saw walled up in a house upon the station.....DOLOCHENO C. IVL. PVBL RIVS TRIB V. S. L. M. The letters I O M have either been at the top of the plane of this altar, and struck off with the capital, or else upon the capital itself. Besides the above, Horsley

* Horsley, p. 236. † Gough, III. 247. ‡ Horsley, p. 237.
§ Philos. Trans. No. 278. Gibs. Camd. 1086.

Horsley has * two sepulchral inscriptions, two reliefs, and an altar to Jupiter, found here; also a rude bas relief of a Roman archer, called *Robin of Risingham*, or *Robin of Redesdale:* it is near the Park-head, about half a mile from the station, on a huge piece of fallen rock. Mr. Hutchinson disagrees with Horsley, in calling it Roman; and says, that the appellation Robin of Redesdale, was given to one of the Umfranvills, and that in the time of Edward the Fourth, one Hilliard, of the Lancastrian party, was thus denominated.† This inscription, D M AEMILLIANVS ANNORVM X, we copied from the original at Campville: it was communicated, with another sepulchral inscription, to Mr. Hutchinson. The two next were also found here, and described by Lionel Charlton, in the Gentleman's Magazine, in 1753, at which time one of them was in a cow-house, the other in a chimney, at Woodburn:—

I O M
VI XII C. R
Q C A
AEMII AEMILIANVS
TRIB C°H. I VANG

....XII : C. R
Q C. ∮ A
IVI. VICTOR
TRBV. C°H. IV
ANGONVM.

Mr. Brand has published the following in his History of Newcastle:‡—MATRIBVS TRAMARINIS IVL. VICT°R V. S. LM. It is upon a handsome altar, discovered here in 1783. Spon's account of the Dæ Matres is, that they were deified women, who, while living, were thought to have the gift of prophecy, and after their death seem to have been worshipped as a sort of genii, or tutelar deities of the places where they resided. This altar is at Campeville.

ELSDON

* P. 240. † Hutch. I. pp. 191, 192. Horsley, p. 239.
‡ Vol. I. p. 616. See Horsley, pp. 201, 272.

ELSDEN parish is about twenty-two miles long and seven miles broad, and contains about 1500 inhabitants. The village of Elsden has an annual fair, for cattle, on the twenty-sixth of August. The parish *church* is ancient, and has once been much larger on the north side. In clearing away the earth recumbent against the north transept, the bones of upwards of one hundred persons were lately found, regularly deposited in double rows, the scull of one alternately lying between the thigh bones of another. Behind the chancel was also found a tomb-stone, with a cross and a sword carved upon it; the monument of a young man, as appeared by the beautiful freshness of his teeth. The *rectory-house* is a strong old tower, with a circular staircase at one corner; its lowest story is spanned with one large arch; on its front are the arms of the Humfranvilles, and beneath them—R D MCCC.

The *Mote Hill*, on the north side of the village, has, as its name evinces, been a place of assembly, on public occasions, in Saxon times; though the remains of strong masonry, and two inscriptions* found upon it, prove that it has been used as an exploratory hill by the Romans, though its features at present

* Bones of different kinds of animals, boar's tusks, an urn with ashes of bones, were, about thirty-five years since, dug up here. The inscriptions are in Horsley as follows:—

1. DEO MATvNO..
PRO SALVTE.

2. B..NO GENERIS
HVMAN. IMPE
RANTE C.....
.....
AUG. PR. PR. POSVIT
AC DEDICAVIT
C. A. AGIL.....

Some have thought that these are fragments of the same stone, and that they should be read thus:—Deo Matuno pro salute et bono generis humani imperante Geta Augusta sub.....legato augustali proprætore posuit ac dedicavit Caius Aulus Acilius.....Mr. Horsley, however, did not entirely coincide in this reading, supposing that the chasms in the third and fourth lines of the second should be filled up with "Calpurnius Agricola."

bear no resemblance of Roman origin. It consists of two circles, detached from each other by ditches, about thirty feet deep, and defended by high breast-work on their margins. Fabulous tradition relates that a giant, called Ella, resided here, and committed great ravages in the neighbourhood.

Bereness Chapel, in this parish, had a long time laid in ruins but was rebuilt by voluntary subscription in 1793, when it was endowed with 1750l.; whereof 1200l. was given by the Rev. L. Dutens, rector of Elsden; 400l. by the governors of Queen Anne's bounty, and 150l. by the subscribers to the edifice.

Otterburne Castle, says Leland, standeth on "Otter in Ridesdale." John Hall, Esq. whose ancestors had been long seated here, was a magistrate, and captain of a train-band in Queen Anne's time. He engaged in the rebellion, in 1715, was taken prisoner at Preston, in Lancashire, and executed at Tyburne. His estates being forfeited, were purchased by Hall of Catcleugh, whose son Robert left them to the father of *Mr. Ellis*, their present possessor, whose mansion-house is founded upon the site of the old castle. In his account* of the battle fought here, on the ninth of August, 1388, Froisart describes this fortress as "tollerably strong, and situated among marches, which the Scots attacked so long, and so unsuccessfully, that they were fatigued, and afterwards sounded a retreat." In council, however, it was agreed to renew the attack in the cool of next morning; but to many of them the light of that morning never shone. Under the Earls of Douglas, Morray, and March, they had a little time before entered Northumberland, crossed the Tyne, and burned the country as far as Brancepeth Castle, and then returned, laden with plunder. In their way back they lay three days before Newcastle, in which time there was much skirmishing, and Sir Henry Percy lost his pennon in an encounter with Douglas, who boasted he would fix it upon his Castle of Dalkeith. The morning after this—

The

* B. III. c. 123—129. Johnes' Translation, Vol. IX. p. 237—283.

The Dowglas turnyd hym homewarde agayne,
For soth withowghten naye,
He took his logeynge at Ottterborne,
Upon a Wedynesday;*

in his road to which place he burned the castle of *Ponelace*, and took its owner, *Sir Haymo de Alphel*,† prisoner. While they were at supper, and "some were gone to sleep, for they had laboured hard during the day at the attack of the castle" of Otterburne, the English, from Newcastle, entered their camp with the cry, 'Percy! Percy!' It was moon-light. The assault, by mistake, was made among the huts of the servants, which gave the Scotch (who had settled their plans of defence in case of attack) time to wheel along the mountain side, and fall upon the English flank. The battle now raged. Douglas and Hotspur had met, and the Scotch were giving way, when Sir Patrick Hepburne and his son came, and renewed the fight. "The Earl of Douglas, who was of a high spirit, seeing his men repulsed, seized a battle-axe with both his hands like a gallant knight, and, to rally his men, dashed into the midst of his enemies, and gave such blows on all around him, that no one could withstand them, but all made way for him on every side, until he was met by three spears that pointed at him; one struck him on the shoulder, another on the stomach, near the belly, and the third entered his thigh. He could never disengage himself from these spears, but was borne to the ground, fighting desperately. From that moment he never rose again. Some of his knights and esquires had followed him, but not all; for, though the moon shone, it was rather dark." When his followers came up they found him stretched upon the ground, with his valiant chaplain and a wounded knight by his side. "Thanks

* The Battle of Otterburne, an old ballad.

† Probably Sir "Aymerus de Athele," who was sheriff of Northumberland, in 1381. Ponteland, as part of the Mitford barony, was, at this time, a possession of Sir Thomas Percy, by his marriage with Elizabeth, co-heiress of David Strabolgie, Earl of Athol.

to God," says he, "I die like my forefathers, in a field of battle, and not in my chamber upon my bed. Raise up my banner, and continue the cry of 'Douglas!' but tell neither friend nor foe that I am dead." The main force of the English army marched over his body. Sir Ralph Percy, badly wounded, was soon after taken prisoner. The contention still continued fierce; but when the fallen banner again came forward, with the cry of "Douglas! Douglas!" the Scotch made a furious attack, and the English, weary with a long day's march, and the fatigue of battle, at last gave way, and were completely overthrown. Sir Ralph Percy, and other distinguished characters, to the number of 1000, were taken prisoners: upwards of 1800 were killed, and above 1000 wounded. Soon after the Bishop of Durham came up with fresh troops, but finding the Scotch strongly entrenched, and being deceived in their numbers, by their blowing a clamorous concert with their horns, they determined to return again to Newcastle. I was told, says Froisart, that this battle was "la plus dure et la plus cruelle et la miex combattue que jamais bataille fut. Ce que croy. Car Anglois d'un costè et Escocois de l'autre sont moult bons gens d'armes et quand ils se trouvent ou rencontrent au party d'armes c'est sans s'epargner. Il n'y a entre eux aul ho. Tant que lances, espees, hackes, et dagues peuvent durer ils fierent et frapent l'un sur l'autre et quand ils se sont bien battus et que l'un partie obtient, ils se glorifient tant en leurs armes, et sont si rejouis que sur les champs ceux qui sont pris et fiancez sont rançonnez; et savez vous comment? si trestot et si courtoisement que chacun se contente de son compaignon et qu'au departement ils dient, Grand mercy. Mais en combattant et en faisant armes l'un sur l'autre il n'y a point de jeu ni d'epargne. Ainçois est tout a certes, et bien le monstrent la: ainsi que je vous diray, car ceste rencontre fut aussi bien demenee au droit d'armes que nulle chose peut onçques estre."

Mr. Horsley, in a letter* to R. Gale, Esq. December thirteenth, 1729,

* Hutch. Northumb. I. 196.

1729, described a *cairn* opened near Otterburne about that time. It was computed to contain about sixty tons of loose stones, under which appeared a large, flat, undressed stone, that covered a cavity, three feet long, two feet broad, and about four feet deep. It was filled about eighteen inches with fine mould, next was a layer of ashes, mixed with pieces of bone and half-burned wood, and then two feet of fine river sand. A similar monument, near *High Carricks*, was used in building a kiln, a few years since: in its centre was a cavity, formed by four stones set on edge, and covered with one about eight feet long and five feet broad. *Hare Cairn*, i. e. army's tomb, on a sheep-walk, east of Rochester, is a mass of loose stones, twelve feet high, and sixty yards in diameter. *Todd-Law* means Fox Hill, and is the name of a moor about a mile south-east of Bereness Chapel, on which are three rude stone pillars, in a triangle, twelve feet asunder. There are several cairns, tumuli, and Druidical circles, scattered over this district, especially on the hills towards the borders.

At *Elishaw*, between Otterburne and Rochester, was an hospital and a chapel, valued in the Liber Regis at 13s. 4d. a year; but few traces of them at present remain. About the spot the ground is uneven, with foundations of other buildings; and a Roman bridge has crossed the Rede here, as is evident by stones still remaining, joined together with iron cramps and lead.

ROCHESTER is situated in Watling Street, eight miles north of Risingham, and twenty of the wall. It is the *Bremenium* of Ptolomy and the Itinerary, as is proved by this inscription, discovered by Camden, and at present in Trinity College:—D R S DVPL. N. EXPLOR. BREMEN. ARAM INSTITVERVNT N. EIVS C. CAEP CHARITINO TRIB. V. S L. M. *i. e.* Deæ Romæ sacrum duplares numeri exploratorum Bremenii aram instituerunt numeni ejus Caio Cæpione Charitino tribuno, &c. Richard numbers Bremenium among the twelve stipendary cities in Britain. It is defended by three ramparts of earth and a wall seven feet thick, and fancifully chequered with ashlar

work, of different colours: part of these walls, on the west and south-west, still remain, but hidden on each side with heaps of ruins. The *hypocaust*, mentioned by Hutchinson, was within the walls, at the north-east compartment: it was built upon large flat stones, upon which stood rows of short pillars, bearing a roof of thin flat stones, then a layer of small stones, filled up, and levelled with river sand, and then covered over with strong bath-plaster, three or four inches thick. The conduits to it were very perfect. Many urns have been found within the walls about the north-west corner; and there is a small *barrow* in the field west of the station. The two following inscriptions are on oblong stones: the first of them, described by Horsley, who had it in his possession; the second explained by Dr. Taylor, in the Philosophical Transactions, in 1744, and at present in the library at Durham:—

DEO INVICTO SOLI SOC
SACRVM. PRO SALVTE ET
INCOLVMITATE. IMP. CAES
M. AVRELi ANTONINI PIi FELIC.
AVG....L. CAECILiVS OPTATvS
TRIB. CoH. I. VARDVL. CVM. CoN..
CRANEIS VOTvM. DEO.....
A SOLO. EXTRVCT.

IMP. CAES. M. AVRELIO
SEVERO ANTONINO
PIO FELICI ET PARTHIC
MAX. BRIT. MAX. GERM.
MAX. PONTIFICI MAXIM.
TRIB. POTEST. XVIII. IMP. II.
COS. IIII. PROCOS P. P. COH. I.
FIDA. VARDVL. CREQ. ⊕ANO.
NNANA FECIT SVB CVRO. T CO..
LEG. XX. GR.

The former Mr. Horsley read: *Deo invicto soli socio sacrum, &c. tribunus cohortis primæ Vardulorum cum consecraneis votum deo templum a solo extructum;* and remarks concerning it, that "the

"the Antoninus, for whose safety this was vowed, must have been either Commodus or Caracalla: the inscription was erected by L. Cæcilius Optatus, tribune of the first cohort of the *Varduli*, a people of Hispania Citerior, situated not far from the west end of the Pyrenæn mountains."*—The "CVM CON," I read, says Mr. Gale, with the beginning of the seventh line, *cum consecraneis*. The word consecranei is not very common, but we have it in Capitolinus (Gord. c. 14.) 'Sacrati commilitones, imo etiam consecranei, *i. e.* ejusdem sacramenti militaris participes,' than which nothing can be more apposite." The latter inscription should be read:—*Imperatori Caesari, &c. proconsuli patri patriæ cohors prima fida Vardulorum civium Romanorum equitata milliaria Antoniniana fecit sub cura tribuni collegii vicesimorum grate.* From which it appears that the consecranei of this place were a college of twenty persons, concerning which see more in the next page.

The next inscription is on an altar, which was dug up, with several coins, in Horsley's time, near the north-west corner of the station. SILVANO P...NTHEO PRO SAL...RVFIN TRIB ET LVCILLAE EIVS LIB. CoS. V. S. L. M. *i. e. Silvano Pantheo pro salute Rufini tribuni et Lucillæ* (uxoris) *ejus Eutychus libertus consulis*, &c. This altar has been erected for the safety of Rufinus the tribune, and his wife Lucilla, by Eutychus, a freedman of the consul. It is common now to give the name *Pantheus* to the figure of any god who has the symbols of other gods joined with his own.†

Mr. Dutens, rector of Elsden, gives‡ this inscription from an altar found at Rochester, and at present at Campeville:—

GENIO ET SIGNIS
COH I. F. IARDVL
C. R. EQ. $\overline{\text{CC}}$
T. LICINIVS VALERI
ANVS TRIB.

Genio

* Brit Rom. p. 241. See the Varduli mentioned, Beauties, &c. Vol. I. p. 211.
† Brit. Rom. p. 243.
‡ In his Explic. de quelq. Medailles, &c. Lond. 1773, 4to.

Genio et signis cohortis primæ fidæ Vardulorum civium Romanorum equitum mille Titus, &c.

The three following inscriptions we copied from very perfect and beautiful altars found within this station, in the ruins of a large building, on the west side of the south gate. The originals are at Campeville:—

1. DEAE MI
ÆRVAE ET
GENIO. COL
LEG L. CÆCL
OPTATVS TRIB
V. S. L. M.

2. DEÆ SANCTÆ
MINERVÆ
FLAVIVS SE
VERINVS
TRIBARAM
DEDIT.

3. DEAE MI
NERVE IVL
CARANIVS
S. C.

The first of these should be read:—*Deae Minervae et Genio Collegii Lucius Cæcilius Optatus tribunus votum*, &c. Concerning which, it is observable, that this altar, and that inscribed 'Deo invicto,' are dedicated by the same tribune, and that the terms "cum consecraneis" and "Genio Collegii" fully establish the existence of some ancient college, or guild, in this stipendary city. Plutarch says of Numa Pompilius, that he was most of all to be commended, for his division of the people into classes of artificers:—ἦν δὲ ἡ διανομὴ κατὰ τὰς τέχνας, αὐλητῶν, χρυσοχόων, τεκτόνων, βαφέων, σκυτοτόμων, σκυτοδεψῶν, καλκέων, κεραμέων. Τὰς δὲ λοιπὰς τέχνας εἰς ταυτὸ συναγαγὼν, ἓν αὐτὸ ἐκ πασῶν ἀπέδειξε συνημα· κοινωνίας δὲ καὶ συνόδους καὶ θεῶν τιμὰς ἀποδους· ἑκάστῳ γένει περιποῦσας, τότε πρῶτον ἐκ της πόλεως ἀπῆλε τὰ λέγεσθαι καὶ νομίζεσθαι τοὺς μὲν, Σαβίνους, τοὺς δὲ, Ῥωμαίους· καὶ τοὺς μὲν, Τατίου, τοὺς δὲ, Ῥωμύλου πολίτας.* Pliny † mentions the College of Coppersmiths as the third, and the College of Potters as the seventh, in Numa's institution. Cicero ‡ also notices the Mercurial and Capitoline Colleges; and Agellius § the College of Travellers. Concerning

* Plutar. Paral. in Vit. Num. Pomp. Vol. I. p. 130. *Ed. Hen. Step. anno* 1572.

† Lib. 34. cap. 1. Lib. 35. cap. 12.

‡ Epist. lib. 2. ep. 5. § Lib. 12. cap. 3.

Concerning the other two of these inscriptions, there is nothing remarkable, except their being dedicated to Minerva only, and the last being erected "by a decree of the senate." There are also several funeral inscriptions, and curious figures in bas-relief, at Campeville, brought from this place, and amongst the rest this fragment:—

..ELIO
..E L. AVG
..RO CoS
..CoH. I F.
..VB CVRA
..G. AVG.
FT. F.

from which little more can be gathered than that it has been erected in memory of some work done by the first cohort of Vardulians, called *fida*.

In our visit to this place, in September 1810, we found two broken inscriptions in the possession of the Rev. — Hope, who resides within the area of the stations; and the following curious, though imperfect inscription, we copied from a stone in a wheat field across the rivulet, and opposite the north-east corner of the station. The top of it has received much injury from the weather:—

I.....
.....C.....F AVG.
....LVS N. ANOR ETEM CoMPT
B R BV CoR SVB CVRVM
IL MAINIAE ET ALIMENT
SVB CVR OPERVM PVBL
IVLIA LVCILLA C. F MARITO
BM VIX AN XLVIII
M. V. D. XXV.

CHIPCHASE CASTLE.—Peter de Insula held Chipches and Withill, by a third part of a knight's fee, of the barony of Humfranvill.* In the time of Henry the Eighth it was the residence of Sir

* Testa. de Nevil, p. 382.

Sir John Heron, in whose family it continued four descents, and then fell to the Allgoods, who soon after sold it to John Reed, Esq. descended from the ancient family of Reeds of Troughend, in Redesdale, and grandfather of its present possessor. Leland calls "Chipchase a praty towne and castle, hard on the easte parte of the arme of Northe Tyne;"* and Sir Ralph Sadler, in a letter to Secretary Cecil, says, "the most apte and convenyent placis for the keeper of Tindale to reside in on all the frontiers are Hawgston, Langley, or Chipchase, in one of which iij placis men of service have alwayes been placed, and especially for the well executing of that office of Tyndale."† The old tower still remains: its roof is built on corbels, and has openings through which to throw down stones or scalding water upon an enemy. The grooves of the portcullis, the porter's chamber above it, and tattered fragments of Gothic painting on the walls, are exceedingly curious. The large additions to this structure were made by Cuthbert Herron, Esq. in 1621; and soon after it came to the present family it was thoroughly repaired, and much improved; the chapel‡ in the lawn was rebuilt, the gardens made, and the grounds covered with extensive plantations. This delighful residence is surrounded with scenery of the richest and most enchanting kind; and from the neighbourhood of Wark, Nunwick, and Simonburn, has a bold and magnificent appearance. The rooms in it are fitted up in a splendid style, and ornamented with several very excellent paintings, amongst which are a fine picture of the Descent from the Cross, by Vandyke; the Marriage at Cana in Galilee, by Tintoretto; a Holy Family, by Rubens; St. John receiving his Revelations, coloured and drawn with great spirit; and the Forum at Rome, with the Tale of M. Curtius leaping into the Gulph, by Paul Panini.

SWINBURNE

* Vol. VII. fol. 75. † State Papers, Vol. I. p. 441.

‡ This chapel, in 1171, was given to the church of Hexham, by Odonel Humfranvill. The old chapel stood near the front of the castle. At present the Vicar of Chollerton performs duty here four times a year, for which he receives forty shillings a year, in lieu of all tythes.

CHIPCHASE CASTLE,
Northumberland.
The Seat of John Reed Esq.r

SWINBURNE CASTLE, the seat of Mrs. Riddell, is an elegant stone building, on rising ground, and surrounded with plantations, laid out in long straight lines, which, at a distance, have a dark and hard appearance. This place, with Gunnerton, was held by "Peter de Gunwarton, of the barony of Baliol, by two knights' fees,"* in the reign of Edward the First. In 1326 it belonged to John de Swinburne, from whom it passed to John de Widdrington, by marriage, and was the property of his descendant, John Widderington, in 1596.† Afterwards it came to the Riddells, an ancient family, some of whom were opulent merchants in Newcastle, and built a residence out of the hospital of St. Edmund, in Gateshead, which, owing to a quarrel between the mob and an old servant, was set on fire as the Duke of Cumberland marched past it into Scotland, in 1746. William Ryddel, in 1569, obtained a lease from the crown of coals "cum les water pyttes in campis de Gateshed."‡ Sir Thomas, of this family, was so great a loyalist in Cromwell's time that 1000l. was offered for his head.

ST. OSWALD'S CHAPEL stands on a high and bold situation, above Chollerford bridge. In a field near it sculls of men and hilts of swords have been frequently ploughed up. "There is a fame," says Leland, "that Oswald won the battle at Halydene a 2. myles est from *St. Oswalde's asche*, and that Haliden is it that Bede caulith Hevenfeld. And men there aboute yet finde smaule wod crossis in the ground."§ A large silver coin of St. Oswald was found, not long since, in repairing the chapel, and there are many ancient charters in the church of Durham with seals, bearing his head, and this inscription—CAPUT SANCTI OSWALD REGIS, on one side, and his cross and SIGILLUM CUDBERTI PRÆSULIS SCI, on the other. The origin of the sanctity of this place is briefly this:—Ceadwalla and Penda having ravaged the whole kingdom of Northumberland,

* Test. de Nev. p. 385. † Inquis. p. mort. Oct. 8, 1585.
‡ Jones's Index to Rec. Vol. II. *sub Gateshead*. § It. Vol. VII. p. 61.

land, Ethelburga and Paulinus fled into Kent, and the people, seeing no end to the oppression they suffered, chose Eanfrid King of Bernicia, and Osric of Deira: they both renounced christianity, and, as if in punishment of their apostacy, the terrible Ceadwallo attacked Osric, slew him, routed his army, and plundered his subjects. Eanfrid, dreading similar treatment, threw himself upon the mercy of the tyrant, who murdered him in his presence. At length, in 635, Oswald, Eanfrid's brother, rising from obscurity, with an army, small indeed, but composed of valiant men, strong in the faith of Christ, generously resolved to oppose the usurper. He had studied the art of war in retirement, and now, having chosen a proper situation on the banks of Denisesburn, entrenched himself, and under the banner of the holy cross waited with religious solemnity for the enemy. Ceadwalla, flushed with recent success, and confident in his numbers, rushed into the camp, but was himself slain with an arrow, and his army routed. The Northumbrian Saxons thought they saw the interference of Providence so plainly in this victory, that they called the field of battle *Hefenfelth*,* i. e. Heaven Field; and the brethren of the church of Hexham, for many years, annually resorted hither on the day before St. Oswald's martyrdom to make vigils for his soul, and sing psalms, and offer the sacrifice of holy oblation for him in the morning. Which good custom growing more into notice, continues Bede, they have lately made the place more sacred and more honourable, by building a church at it; and that not without cause, for we do not find that there was any sign of christianity, any church, or any altar, in the whole kingdom of Bernicia before this new general erected this banner of the holy cross, when he was about to fight with a most barbarous enemy.†

DENISESBURN, is at present called Erringburn. Hefenfelth, according

* Polychron. l. 5. c. 12. Sax. Ann. G. Malms. l. 1. c. 3.

† Eccl. Hist. l. 3. c. 1. 2.

according to Bede, was juxta murum, ad Aquilonem, and is supposed by some to be the same as *Hallington*,* in old writings *Haledown*, that is, Holy Hill. By the tradition of some, this battle was fought at Bingfield, where there is a chapel, formerly under Hexham church; but others assert that it happened in the grounds of Cockley, below the church and cross of St. Oswald, and between Erringburn and the Wall. But whether it was at Hallington, Cockley, or Bingfield, Erringburn must be the same brook that Bede calls Denisesburn.†

ST. JOHNLEE is the name of a parish, the church of which is dedicated to St. John of Beverley, and stands on a bold and woody headland, having a prospect of both arms of the Tyne and far down its united stream. Below it is *Hermitage*, a place where both art and nature have united their efforts to render charming.‡ Prior Richard calls it *Ernehow*, which he interprets *Eagle's Hill*.§ It was to this sweet solitude that John of Beverley retired from his apostolic labours of evangelizing the English pagans, previous to his appointment to the see of Hexham, by King Alfred. Here also was the oratory of St. Michael, held sacred in former days for its power over inveterate diseases. It was plundered by two Scots from the army of David, in 1138; both of which, says Richard, soon after were seized with madness,

* *Hallington*, before the dissolution, belonged to the church of Hexham. At present it partly belongs to the Erringtons, and to Christopher Soulsby, Esq. of *Hallington Mains*. The Erringtons derive their name from a small hamlet on the Erringburn, and were seated at it in 1372. Their principal seat, in 1567, was *Cockley Tower*, a strong old fortress, at present in ruins, though the dungeons and rooms in its turrets are pretty perfect, and traces of painting are still observable on the plaster of its walls. Near Hallington is a hill, called the *Mote Law*, having a square entrenchment upon it, in the middle of which is a hearth-stone, for kindling alarm-fires upon; and not far south-west from St. Oswald's Chapel is a curious hill, called *Hanging Shaw*, with several gradations of artificial terraces on its sides.

† Smith's Bede, apx. p. 720.

‡ Stubbs, Act. Pontif. Ebor. col. 1692. § De Statu &c. col. 291.

ness, and wildly roved about, mangling their limbs till they died. After the dissolution "Tharmitag and Chantri-close"* were in the hands of the crown, as parcels and possessions of the church of Hexham.† In 1721 it belonged to John Coatsworth, Esq. from whom it passed by will to James Jurin, Esq. son of Dr. Jurin, the learned editor of Varenius' Geography. President of the College of Physicians, &c. and, since the death of his widow, it has been the seat of John Hunter, Esq. Mr. Coatsworth built the mansion-house, and Mr. Jurin made great improvements about it.

BEAUFRONT was the seat of David Carnaby, Esq. in 1567; and, in 1628, we find, in the list of grand jurors for this county, that it was the residence of Henry Errington, Esq. from whom it has lineally descended to its present owner, John Errington, Esq. Few places make a finer appearance, or enjoy a larger and better cultivated prospect than this. From the south side of the Tyne it exhibits a long and handsome front, surrounded with fine pleasure-grounds; and from its walks are seen towns, towers, and hamlets, and the winding stream of Tyne, sometimes hidden under its banks, and at others boldly crossing the meadows in broad and silver-looking reaches.

HEXHAM.—A similarity of name induced Camden, and other antiquaries, to suppose that HEXHAM was the Axelodunum of the Romans; but Horsley, on stronger grounds, refers that station to Brugh in Cumberland.‡ He knew not what name to give this place, "unless we suppose it to have been Ptolomy's Epiacum;§ but no doubt now remains that Epiacum was either at Lanchester or Ebchester.‖ That the Romans had a station or town here is probable, from its early mention in Saxon history, and proved by the discovery of two Roman inscriptions in a crypt of the church. The first of them is upon an altar, imperfect at the top; and copied by Horsley thus:—

LEG.

* Laws. MS. f. 13. † Ech. 10 Eliz.

‡ Brit. Rom. p. 190. § Ib. 250. ‖ Ric. Cor. 38—52.

LEG. A.....
Q. CALPVRNvS
CONCESSINI
VS. PRAEF. EQ
CAESA CORI
ONOTOTAR
VM. MANV PR
AESENTISSIMI
NVMINIS DEVS.*

These equites Corionototæ, Horsley supposes might be the athletic Crotoniates of whom Strabo said, "the last of them was the first of the Greeks;" a conjecture which accounts for the Greek inscriptions found at Corbridge. But some have thought that the name Corionototæ may be a corruption of Curia, or Coria Otadenorum, and that Corbridge was the place. *Coriotiotar* in the anonymous Ravennas, is not unlike this name." The other is on a tablet in the roof of the north passage to the body of the crypt; the right hand side of it is hidden in the wall, and the blanks in the fourth and fifth lines "have been designedly erased with a tool:—"

IMP. CAES. L. SEP.....
PERINAX. ET. IMP. C.....
AVR ANTONINV.....
VS II.....
.....HORR.....
VEXILLATION.....
FECERVNT V.....†

The imperfect state of this inscription renders its true reading very doubtful; and as the names of Pertinax were Publius Helvius, Horsley was certainly mistaken in attributing it to that emperor,

* Legato Augustali *propratore* Quintus Calpurnius Concessinius præfectus equitum Cæsariensium Corionototarum manu præsentissimi numinis dei votum solvit. *Horsley*, p. 248.

† Imperator Cæsar Lucius Septimius Pertinax et imperator Cæsar *Marcus* Aurelius Antoninus Pius *felix et Geta Cæsar* Cohortium Vexillationes fecerunt. *Horsley.*

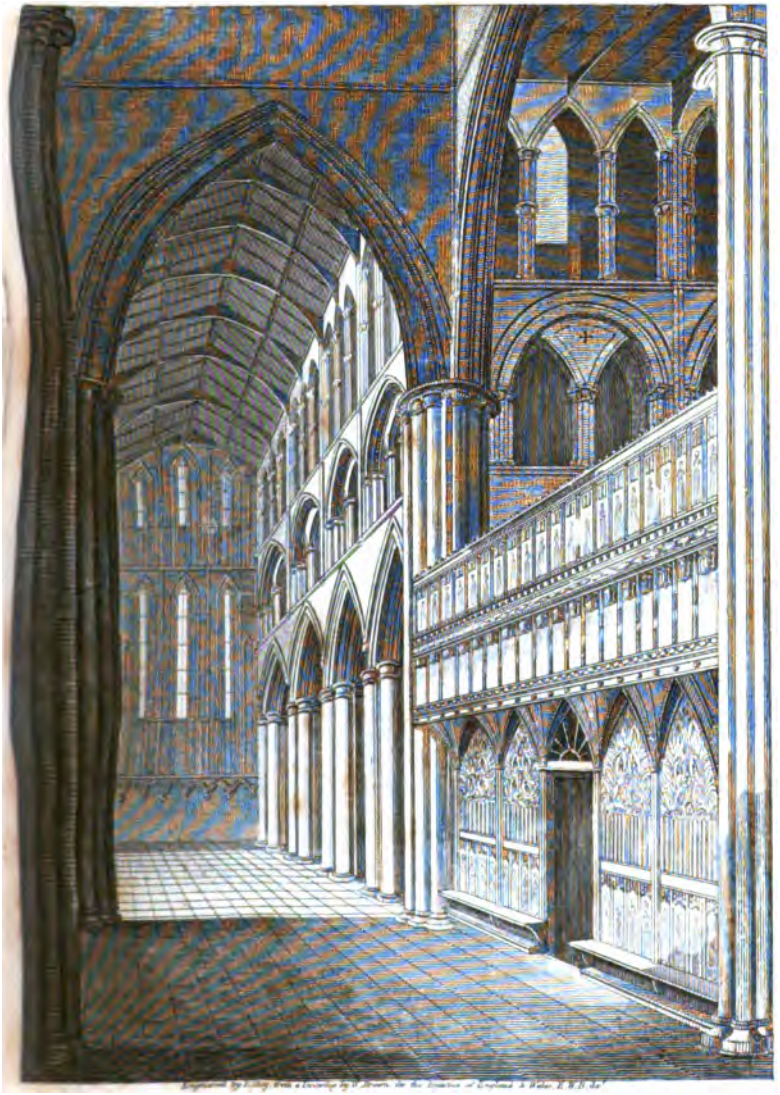
emperor, as he has also been in copying some parts of the original. We conjecture that it relates to the building or repairing of some granary, and that it is akin to the inscriptions belonging to the time of Alexander Severus, and found at Æsica and Cilurnum.* There is also a fragment of another inscription in this crypt, over the head of a door way.

In 674, two hundred seventy and eight years after the desertion of Britain by the Romans, Hestoldesham, or, as it was more usually called, Hagustald, was made the see of a bishop, by St. Wilfrid, Archbishop of York. The founder presided over it four years; but falling into disgrace with King Egfrid, and into a controversy with Theodore, Archbishop of Canterbury, he was deprived of his dignities, and succeeded in this office by Eata, Tumbert, and St. John of Beverley; on whose promotion to the see of York, in 687, he was restored to his seat here, in which he continued till his death, which happened in 687. After him came Acca, the friend and patron of St. Bede,† and the chaplain and sharer of the fortune of his predecessor. He was, says Bede, a most zealous man, et coram Deo et hominibus magnificus. He enlarged and beautified the cathedral church; but was banished in 732, and succeeded by Fridbert, who presided thirty-four years, and was followed by Alcmund in 767, Tilbert 781, Ethelbert 789, Headred, 800, Eanbert, or Osbert, 806, and, lastly, by Tydferth, who died on a journey to Rome, about 821, and with whom the bishopric ceased, after lasting about one hundred and fifty years, and about fifty-one years before the devastation of Northumberland by Halden the Dane.‡ In 883 it was united to the see of Lindisfarn, at that time removed to Chester le Street, and followed the fortune of the Bishopric of Durham, till Henry the First, offended with the conduct of Bishop Flambard, gave it to the see of York, in which it has ever since continued.

On the south side of the Tyne, says Richard, stands a town, rather

* See Gruter, p. cxc. No. 13. p. cxci. No. 8. p. mlxxviii. No. 7, 8

† Bede, Eccl. Hist. l. v. c. 20. ‡ Ric. Hag. l. i. c. xix.



HEXHAM - ABBEY CHURCH.
(Shewing the Screen and North Transept)
Northumberland.

London, Published by Fraser, Heath & Sharpe, Finsbury, Feb.ry 1.1820.

rather small at present, and thinly inhabited, but formerly, as vestiges of antiquity testify, large and magnificent. It has its name from the Hestild, a rivulet that runs near it. Etheldreda, wife of King Egfrid, gave it to St. Wilfrid, Bishop of York, that he might raise it to be the see of a bishop. The church was dedicated to St Andrew, and is much celebrated by ancient historians for its extent and beauty. The workmen employed in building it were brought by St. Wilfrid from Rome. "He began the edifice by making crypts, and subterraneous oratories, and winding passages through all parts of its foundations. The pillars that supported the walls were finely polished, square, and of various other shapes, and the three galleries were of immense height and length. These, and the capitals of their columns, and the bow of the sanctuary, he decorated with histories and images, carved in relief on the stone, and with pictures coloured with great taste. The body of the church was surrounded with wings and porticos, to which winding staircases were contrived with the most astonishing art. These staircases also led to long walking-galleries, and various winding passages so contrived, that a very great multitude of people might be within them, unperceived by any person on the ground-floor of the church. Oratories, too, as secret as they were beautiful, were made in all parts of it, and in which were altars of the Virgin, of St. Michael, St. John the Baptist, and all the Apostles, Confessors, and Virgins. Certain towers and block-houses remain unto this day, specimens of the inimitable excellence of the architecture of this structure. The reliques, the religious persons, the ministers, the great library, the vestments, and utensils of the church, were too numerous and magnificent for the poverty of our language to describe. The atrium of the cathedral was girt with a stone wall of great thickness and strength, and a stone aqueduct conveyed a stream of water through the town to all the offices. The magnitude of this place is apparent from the extent of its ruins. It excelled, in the excellence of its architecture, all the buildings

in England; and in truth, there was nothing like it, at that time, to be found on this side the Alps.*" Of the two other Saxon churches, mentioned by Richard, there are no traces at present.

The place in which the Roman antiquities were discovered, we suppose has been one of the oratories of Wilfrid's church. Its body is fifteen feet by nine, and has been approached by two winding passages, at present walled up; access being obtained to it by raising a large tombstone, and descending into it by a long ladder out of the churchyard. The number of carved stones in it, which have been applied to former buildings, evidently testify, that as long as the ruins of the Roman fortress lasted, they were used in the foundations of this edifice.

Thomas the Second, Archbishop of York, in his visit to this place in 1113, struck with its ruined grandeur, and recollecting its ancient dignity and opulence, with the consent of its rector and vicar, placed a prior and canons regular, of the order of St. Austin, in it. The following inscription, in ligature letters, in a fillet of the tabernacle work at the entrance into the choir, proves that this archbishop was one of its benefactors. Orate pro anima, Dni. Thomæ S ..... Pater hujus *Ecclesiæ*, Qui fecit hoc Op*us*. The letters in Italic supply the parts of the inscription broken off. In various parts of the church we found the letters ri laid in the form of a St. Andrew's cross, on a shield; and in the inside of the manor office is a shield, charged with St. Andrew's cross, and the letters ri[illegible], meaning *Richardus Prior Hagustaldensis*, which prove that the edifice was building in his time. Richard flourished in the reign of Henry the Second, and died "sub annum 1190.†" To the reign of Henry the First, when this church was separated from the see of Durham, we may therefore date the commencement of its re-building, and the period of its being finished to the latter

* Rich. Pr. Hag. int. X Script. Col. 290. See also Eddius, and Bede's Ecc. Hist. L. V. c. xx.

† Vossius de Hist. Lat. L. II. cap. 52.

latter end of the time of Henry the Second. It is in the form of a Greek cross; the tower, near thirty-four yards high, is in the centre, and appears low and broad. The architecture is mixed, of the Gothic and Saxon; in one part the narrow sharp windows appear, which began to be in use about this time. The interior is highly finished; the principal pillars, which are rather disproportionate and heavy, are clustered, and support Gothic arches; but the members of the archings and pilasters are finely proportioned. The choir is roofed with wood, covered with lead, and the side aisles are arched with stone. A double gallery runs round the whole structure, opening with Saxon arches, each opening being composed of three arches, the centre one circular, the side ones pointed, the workmanship extremely fine, and the pillars light.* The nave was burnt down by the Scots in 1296, and nothing now remains of it but a sadly ruined specimen of its western door, and part of the south wall adjoining the cloisters. The whole edifice has strong marks of fire upon it. The choir is at present used as the parish church, and crouded with most inelegant pews and galleries. On the pannels of the screen, at its entrance, is painted *Death's Dance*, and several historical subjects; and over the litany-desk, at present placed on the west side of the transept, are full-length portraits of the saints Wilfrid, John of Beverley, Acca, Fridbert, Gilfrid, Alcmund, and Eata, with this inscription above their heads, '*Fundatores, hujus loci.*' Each figure is about three feet long, the drapery good, but the painting flat. The bishop's pew, and the oratory, near Prior Richard's tomb, have been also ornamented with paintings, at present much defaced by time and bad usage.

In the south aisle is a mutilated effigy of one of the Umfranvilles, in the attitude of a crusador; and, at the entrance into the northern transept, is a recumbent figure, with clasped hands, legs and arms cuirassed, sword sheathed, and his shield charged with the arms of the Aydens. At the west end of the

* Hutch. I. 91, 99.

north aisle is an elegant tomb, supposed to be in memory of Alfwald, King of Northumberland, who was slain at Scilechester, in 788. The effigy that belongs to it is clad in the robes of an ecclesiastic. The tomb of Prior Richard is ornamented with several rude and fanciful carvings, which have been mistaken for Roman antiquities, but which Pennant justly stiles, "monstruous engravings of no meaning or moment." Near this tomb is a beautiful oratory, now a pew, and above it is suspended the helmet of Sir J. Fenwick, who was slain at the battle of Marsden Moor, and whose scull, broken in the same place as the helmet, is still preserved in the priory. On the south side of the altar are three stalls (and two others have been cut away) highly ornamented with tabernacle-work, and to which the bishop and his attendants retired during the elevation of the host, as is the practice in the great churches of the continent. Behind the altar is the place of the shrine of the holy relicks, now called the Old School, fifty-nine feet long, and twenty-five feet wide, in which have been found many stone coffins. And against a pillar on the north side of the altar still remains the *Frid-stool*, or seat of sanctuary, concerning which Richard tells us, "that by seizing any one, flying for refuge, within the four crosses on the outside of the town, a penalty of sixteen pounds was incurred; within the town the penalty was thirty-two pounds; within the walls of the churchyard forty-eight pounds; within the doors of the choir 144l. and besides these penalties, penance, as for sacrilege, for each offence; but they who shall presume to seize any one in the stone chair, near the altar, called the Frid-stool, or at the shrine of holy relicks, behind the altar, for such flagitious crime, shall not be allowed to purchase remission by any sum of money, but shall be *bootless*, incapable of pardon.*"

This

* Lib. II. cap. xvi. This privilege of sanctuary was first procured by Wilfrid; and in a suit concerning the right of it, in 1292, the Archbishop of York pleaded his claim of immemorial usage, upon which the king and council

Engraved by R. Roffe from a drawing by W. Brown for the Beauties of England & Wales Vol. XI

CHOIR of HEXHAM CHURCH,
(Looking Eastward)
Northumberland

London, Published by Verner, Hood & Sharpe, Bookseller, June 1, 1809

This church had large possessions, a catalogue of which is still preserved in the manor-office of the abbey, and is called the *Black-Book:* it was gleaned for the Monasticon. At the dissolution, the priory lands were valued at 122*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.* Robert Holgate, Archbishop of York, in 1545, gave the manor in exchange for certain church property, and retained nothing but episcopal jurisdiction.* Several of its possessions were in the hands of the crown, in 1567, but sold, in 1578, to Sir John Foster, Knt. Bant. In 1660 they devolved to his son-in-law, Sir John Fenwick, Knight, whose grandson, Sir John Fenwick, Bart. sold them to Sir William Blackett, Bart. from whom they descended to T. R. Beaumont, Esq. of Bretton Park, in Yorkshire, by marriage of Diana, daughter of the late Sir Thomas Wentworth Blackett.

The PRIORY stood at the west end of the church. Its cloisters and chapel were to be seen not many years since. Sir Reginald Carnaby † repaired it, and his arms, with the date,

M 3 1539,

council established his right; and Edward the Third confirmed Jura Regulia, and the right of tenths and fifteenths to it, allowing the archbishop all his own officers. No king's bailiff could enter his manor. He held prisoners and parted with them at his own will. He had a market, gallows, and chattels of fugitives and felons condemned in the manor. *Madox's Bar. Ang. p.* 152. These privileges were abridged in 1413, on account of the place being an asylum to outlaws and robbers; and finally overthrown in the twenty-seventh of Henry the Eighth, when the Archbishop of York, and his temporal chancellor, were made justices of the peace for *the shire* of Hexham, which district, in the fourteenth of Elizabeth, was annexed to the county of Northumberland. The only remains of these ancient franchises, existing at present, are—a court of record, and a court of pleas, over which a steward presides; and a court baron, of which the bailiff of the manor is the judge.

* B. Willis's Sur. I. 19, 44.

† There was a warm dispute between the Duke of Northumberland and Sir Ralph Sadler, in 1559, concerning Lady Carnaby's house being made the residence of the keeper of Tindale, in which Sir Ralph says:—"Hexham is no apte, no mete place for the service of the keper of Tyndale. Nor in

1539, remain over a door in the manor office. Here is a finely carved oak bedstead, around the fringe of the tester of which, is this inscription, in Gothic capitals:—····Eboracensis Dioseicis medit hoc opus A·····omini millisimo quingint····· The imperfections were caused by an ignorant workman, who nailed the fringe to the posts of the bed, without the moulding, which formerly went between them. The priory was also repaired by Sir Walter Calverly Blackett, Bart. and a few years since was completely rebuilt by Mr. Beaumont. No part of the old building remains, except the manor office, the refectory, and a small specimen of the cloisters, in one part of which was lately dug up a curious grave-stone, inscribed, PVERI VRDANI, and ornamented with crosses and swords. The *Gateway*, which leads to the north front of this mansion, bears strong marks of Saxon architecture, and is supposed to have been coeval with Wilfrid's church. There are also two towers in the circuit of the walls of the old monastery, which exhibit marks of high antiquity. One of them is built over a gateway, and was formerly the town-hall, but at present a sessions-room, for the county of Northumberland, and a court-house for the manor of Hexham. The other stands on a hill, is square, has small loop-holes, broad corbel battlements, and two dungeons, which were used as prisons while the town had palatine

In my tyme I am sure there never lay any such in Hexham, saving onley Sir Regnolde Carnaby, who had lever lye in his owne house, though it were not the metest place for the service, then seke any others. Never the lesse, I have learned since my comyng hither, that Mr. Slingsbie hath a gret desyre to lie in Hexham, wher indede he hath leyn for the most part this xij moneth, ever since he had thoffice, in a house, which, if he woll neds lye in Hexham, may serve him as well now as it hath done before; and if he be wery of that house, yet is there in Hexham ij towers of the quene's majestie's, which, as I am credibly informed, with thexpence of xx^{li}. to make a litle reparation, will serve as good a man as Mr. Slingsbie is; but for his own ease and comodyte, he must neds have my lady Carnabie's house, because it is the fayrest in the towne." State Papers, Vol. I. p. 412.

palatine privileges. "On an oak mantlepiece of one of the dark chambers is an inscription, which seems to consist of moral sentences.*"

This town is finely situated on the south side of the Tyne. Its streets are narrow, and not well built. It has a market on Tuesdays, and annual fairs, August the fifth, and November the eighth. Leather, gloves, and hats, are its chief manufactures. Here is a free-school, founded by Queen Elizabeth, June 25th, 1598. The Mercer's Company, in London, founded a lectureship in the church, in 1623, under the will of Richard Fishborne, Esq. which has opulent revenues at present. This town gave birth to two priors of its church, John, and Richard de Hexham. John continued the History of Durham, from 1130 to 1154, which Twisden published among the Decem Scriptores, from a single MS. in Benet College Library, Cambridge. Richard wrote "A History of Hexham Church and Bishops;" "The Reign of Stephen;" and "The War of the Standard;" also published among the Decem Scriptores.†

John Nevil, Marquis of Montague, general of the forces of Edward the Fourth, gained a decisive victory near this town, at a place called the Linhills, on the southern bank of Devilswater, over the forces of the deposed king, Henry the Sixth. The *Abacot*, or cap of state, adorned with two rich crowns, was found upon one of Henry's attendants; and his general, the Duke of Somerset, was taken prisoner and beheaded, as were several other distinguished characters, at Hexham. Montague's success procured him the title of Duke of Northumberland. Henry was soon after taken prisoner; and his queen and son, after many miseries and adventures, arrived at the house of René, of Anjou, her father. Duxfield and the Queen's Cave, places near the field of battle, date their names from

* Hutch. I. 106. Gough's Camd. III. 249.

† Seld. Præf. ad. X. Script. Wharton's Angl. Sac. I. Præf. 48. Tan. Bib. Brit. p. 628.

this event. A serious riot also took place in this town on the ninth of March, 1761, between a very large concourse of people, collected to oppose the balloting for the militia, and a troop of the North York militia. After Ensign Hart and a private were killed, the magistrates commanded the militia to fire upon the mob, forty-five of whom were killed on the spot, and about 300 badly wounded.

The ABBEY of BLANCHELAND stands in a narrow, green valley, surrounded by moors and morasses, and is about two miles from the head of the river Derwent. It was founded by Walter de Bolbeck, in 1165, for twelve premonstratensian canons. The abbot was summoned to the parliaments held in 1291 and 1295. Its revenues, at the suppression, were valued, by Speed, at 44l. 9s. 1d. It was granted by the crown to John Bellow and John Brixholm, and after that became the property of the Forsters, of Bamburgh, who forfeited it, in 1715, after which it was purchased by Lord Crewe, and by him left to charitable uses. Part of the church is fitted up for the use of the parish, and contains some old grave-stones. The gateway of the quadrangle of the abbey, and the abbey itself, are pretty entire. A mile from it, near Hunstanworth chapel, is a curious arched *vault*, forty-five feet long, and twenty-five feet wide. Also in this neighbourhood is BOLBECK, which, in the eleventh and twelfth centuries, was the barony of a famous family of its own name; it was forfeited, with the Bywell barony, by the Earl of Westmoreland, in Queen Elizabeth's reign; it at present is a manor of George Silvertop, Esq. of MINSTER ACRES, a seat about which great and laudable improvements have, of late years, been made in planting.

PRUDHOE CASTLE has its name from standing on a *proud eminence*. It was the capital seat of the barony of the Humfranvilles, and given to them by William the Conqueror, with whom they came into England. It was gallantly and successfully defended against William, King of Scotland, in the time of Henry the Second. Odonel Humfranville also defended it against

Engraved by W. Ellis from an Original Drawing by Nicholson.

PRUDHOE CASTLE,
Northumberland.

London Published by Vernor Hood & Sharp, Poultry June 1st 1811

against the Scots in 1244, and plundered his neighbours to repair its roof. Gilbert, of this family, died in 1245, and is called, by M. Paris, "a famous baron, the guardian and ornament of the northern parts." Three of this family were Earls of Angus, viz. Gilbert the Third, who died in 1272; Robert, who died in 1384; and Gilbert the Fourth, who died without issue in 1381. Sir Robert, half brother of Gilbert the Fourth, was sheriff of this county in the years 1371, 1376, 1400, and 1404; and Sir Robert, grandson of the second earl, was a knight of the garter, and Vice-Admiral of England, in 1410: he brought such plenty of cloth and corn from a Scotch war, that he was nick-named *Robin Mend-Market*. He was slain at Baugie, in Anjou, in 1419.* From this family Prudhoe came to the Tailboys, who forfeited it at the battle of Hexham. The crown granted it to John, Duke of Bedford, and afterwards to Henry Percy, first Earl of Northumberland, in whose family it still continues. This castle was tenanted, in 1557, by Henry Percy, brother of Thomas, Earl of Northumberland;† though in 1559 it is described as "old and ruinous, being walled about, and in form not much unlike unto a shield hanging with one point upward, scituate upon a high moate of earth, with ditches in some places, all wrought with man's hand, as it seemeth, and is of content, all the scite of, with a little garden plat, and the bankes, by estimatcion, sc. iii acres. —There is within the scyte, and without the walls, an elder *chapell*, which hath been very faire, and covered with slate."—In this there was a chantry for two chaplains, founded by Gilbert Humfranville, first Earl of Angus. "The gate is a tower, all massy worke on both sides to the top of the vault. Above the vault is the chepell; and, above the chepell, a chamber, called the wardrobe." The outer walls appear to be the oldest part of this fortress, as the square towers in them, on the west side, have circular bases, and the covered way, which leads to the inner

* Hollinshed, II. 536—578.

† Lodge's Illust. of Brit. Hist. Vol. I. p. 254.

Ηρακλει Τυρίω Διαδωρα αρχιερεια :—and the second, Αγαρτης βωμον μ' εσωρας Πουλχερ μ' ανεθηκεν.

In 1735, a fine *silver plate*, or *lanx*, nineteen inches and a half long, and fifteen inches broad, and weighing 148 ounces, was found on the margin of a little brook, on the east side of Corbridge. It is at Alnwick Castle. Sir John Clerk made "no question of its being a *tabula votiva*, and that it had been hung up or kept in some temple at Corbridge, dedicated, perhaps, to Ceres or Apollo." It has a flat rim, an inch and a quarter deep, charged with vine leaves; and the middle of it is adorned with figures of Apollo, Vesta, Juno, Minerva, and Diana, each with their proper symbols, &c.* The figures are in bas relief; the minor parts have been executed with punches. On the back are a few dotted letters, which were probably the workman's signatures. The work is neither of the best nor of the worst of times: the figure of Vesta is extremely well executed, the posture free, the drapery soft and easy. Also about the same time was found, on the other side of the river, nearly opposite the place where the lanx was found, a silver cup, weighing twenty ounces; on one part of it are six equidistant compartments, each containing the Christian monogram. "It may have probably been a chalice, and the dish, though of Pagan workmanship, may have served as a patten." †

Dilston-Hall stands on a bold situation, on the east side of the brook called Devilswater. Here, in the time of Henry the Third, was the baronial seat of Thomas de Devilstone, whose family had resided in it from the time of the conquest. After them this place was successively possessed by the Tindales, Crasters, Claxtons, and Ratcliffes, which last family had it in 1457. Sir Francis Ratcliffe married Mary Tudor, natural daughter of Charles the Second; and James the Second, in 1687, created him Baron Dilston, Viscount Langley, and Earl of Derwentwater. His son James being engaged in the rebellion,

* Gough's Camd. III. 250. † Ibid.

lion, in 1715, was taken and beheaded, when the whole of his estates were forfeited to the crown, and given to Greenwich Hospital. The HALL was built in 1616, by Francis Ratcliffe, Esq. and, after falling into ruin, completely removed, by the advice of Mr. Smeaton. It stood adjoining to the *old tower* of the Devilstones, which still remains. In the *chapel*, which is kept in decent repair, though not used, is a vault, containing the remains of several of the Ratcliffe family.

AYDEN CASTLE stands on the west side of a deep dell, and by the present extent of its ruins seems to have been, at one time, a place of great size and strength. It is encompassed with a ruinous outward wall, pierced with arrow-holes. Here is a stable arched with stone, and having stone mangers. It gave name to a family, whose heiress Edward the First married to Peter de Wallis. Afterwards it belonged to the Raymess, of Bolam, who held it from 1368, to the reign of Charles the First. A moiety of it belonged to the Carnabys of

HALTON TOWER, a strong old seat, with turrets at its four corners, and which that family obtained by marrying an heiress of the Haltons, in Edward the First's time. They were a branch of the Carnabys, of Carnaby, near Bridlington, in Yorkshire. This estate was sold, in the beginning of the last century, to John Douglas, Esq. and from him descended to the Blacketts, of Matfen. Here is preserved a sword of the Carnabys, sixty-four inches long; and, a short distance to the north, is

HALTON CHESTERS, the *Hunnum* of the Notitia, and garrisoned by the Ala Saviniana. It lies between the two barriers, and on both sides of the present military way. It seems to have been supplied with water by an aqueduct, from a spring on the higher ground, which a countryman told Horsley, formerly contained the speaking trumpet, which ran through the whole length of the wall. The border part of the station is called *Silver Hill*. On the south side of it, the walls, ditches, and the interior buildings, appear in large and confused heaps of

of ruins. The south-east corner seems to have been round, and a heap of ruins there, larger than at other places, plainly indicates the remains of a fallen tower. The inscriptions belonging to this place, which Horsley mentions, are few and incurious. Since his time have been found a centurial stone, with LEG II AVG. E. in a civic crown, with eagles heads at each end; another, thirteen inches by eight, with this inscription, in a border, LEG. XX VV ↄ HORTENS PROCVL; and a third, eleven inches by six, inscribed, LE. VI. V. P. F. FEC. Great abundance of stags horns, lying by heaps of muscle shells, many coins, and a curious ring, now at Matfen, have been dug up here.

Bywell, says the Testa de Nevill, is a barony held in capite of the king, by Hugh de Baliol, by the service of five knight's fees: and also of thirty knight's fees for ward of Newcastle, as his ancestors held in the time of William Rufus, who invested them therewith. In Richard the Second's reign it came to the Nevil's, afterwards Earls of Westmoreland, who forfeited it in 1571, after which it was purchased by a branch of the Fenwicks, of Fenwick Tower, and is now the property of the Rev. Septimus Hodgson, by his marriage with the widow of the last of that family.

"The town of Bywell," says the survey, taken of the forfeited estates in 1569, "is builded in length all of one street, upon the river, or water of Tyne, is divided into two several parishes, and inhabited by handicraft men, whose trade is in iron-work, for the horsemen and borderers of that country. They are subject to the thieves of Tynedale, and compelled, winter and summer, to bring in all their cattle and sheep into the street in the night season, and watch both ends of the street, and, when the enemy approacheth, to raise hue and cry. In Bywell town, the ancestors of the Earl of Westmoreland built a fair tower, or gate-house, all of stone, and covered with lead; meaning to have proceeded farther, as appears by the walls, the height of a man, left unfinished." Facing the castle,

castle, on the southern margin of the river, are the ruins of a domestic chapel: the piers of the bridge, mentioned by Camden and Penant, are still standing, and have probably belonged to a wooden bridge, which lead to this chapel, and to the southern parts of the baronies of Bywell and Bolbeck. The town is small at present, but, both in appearance and situation, the most interesting of any in this county. The woody banks of the river, the water-fall, the castle, and the two churches, all within a narrow compass, group agreeably together. Mr. Hodgson's house is of Payne's architecture, and girt with a fine lawn, and stately forest trees. A silver salver, of Roman workmanship, and inscribed DESIDERI VIVAS, was found in the Tyne, near this place, after a flood, in 1760.

At OVINGHAM, was a cell of black canons, subordinate to Hexham, and founded by one of the Humfranvilles, barons of Prudhoe. Speed values it at 13l. a year. In the parish church here, is a tomb of one of the Addisons, who purchased the lands and appropriations of this house, and resided here, till their possessions were sold to Charles Clarke, Esq. from whom they went, by marriage of his daughter and heiress, to William Bigge, Esq. of Benton. This town had a royal charter for a market, and was governed by a bailiff. Near it, at Wylam, are large collieries; and WYLAM HALL, a seat of the Blacketts, in the seventeenth century, and at present of Christopher Blackett, Esq. North of Ovingham, on the line of Hadrian's Vallum, is WELTON, now a small hamlet, but once, as extentive foundations testify, a considerable village. This, in 653, was the royal villa of King Osweo, which Bede calls AD MURUM, and in which Finian, Bishop of Lindisfarne, baptized the Mercian king, Peada, and Sigberet, King of the East Saxons.* WELTON TOWER, antiently the seat of the Welton family, and at present the property of William Boswell, Esq. of Britton Hall, Yorkshire, is falling fast into ruins. At it we saw

* Hist. Aug. l. iii. c. 21, 22.

saw this inscription: LEG. II. AVG. F. on a large stone, dug out of the opposite castellum of the wall.

RUTCHESTER, the *Vindobala* of the Notitia, was the station of the first cohort of the Frixagi. It has been a considerable fort, having had towers not only at its corners and gates, but also in each intermediate space between them. Its inside was paved with flat, unsquared freestones, lately taken up, on the east side. A broken statue of Hercules, two silver fibulæ, coins of the lower empire, and bricks made by the sixth legion, are mentioned among the discoveries here; but no inscriptions of any note have been found. In the castellum, nearest this station on the east, were found, in 1766, an urn full of gold and silver coins; "almost a complete series of those of the higher empire; among them several *Othos;* most of them in fine preservation."*

STAMFORDHAM

is a well-built town, having a market and three annual fairs: the cross was built by Sir John Swinburne, Bart. in 1736, to whose ancestors this manor was granted by Sir William de Hilton, in 1399. Here is a free-school, founded and well-endowed by Sir Thomas Widdrington, Knight, in 1663. In the church is a cross-legged figure of one of the Fenwicks, an antient family, who resided at FENWICK TOWER, in this parish, from the time of Henry the Third, to the Revolution, when their estate was forfeited for treason, and sold to the Blacketts. In pulling down the ruins of this house, in 1775, "several hundred fair gold nobles, of Edward the Third, were found in a stone chest, covered with sand twelve inches deep, and placed over the arch of the cellar door, which stood immediately under the flags of the castle gate. They were probably concealed on an inroad of David, King of Scotland, in 1360, as far as Hexham, whence he

* Wallis, ii. 168.

he carried off the two sons of Sir John Fenwick, the owner of this castle, who did not long survive the loss, and probably then concealed this new species of coinage."†

WEST-MATFEN, the seat of Sir William Blackett, Bart. was held of Henry the Third, by Philip de Ulcote, in Grand Serjeancy. After this it belonged to the Feltons; then to Sir Edward de Hastings; in Queen Elizabeth's reign to Sir Ralph Lawson, and afterwards passed, with Halton Tower and other property, to the Blacketts. In an adjoining field is a circular mount, with a cavity on its top; and by it a stone nine feet high and three feet by one and a half thick, called the *Stob-Stone*. In removing the mount, two kistvaens were found, containing ashes of the dead, dusty and white.

CHEESEBURNE GRANGE, before the dissolution, belonged to Hexham priory; and to Gawin Swinburne, Esq. in 1567. In 1638 it was the seat of Thomas Widdrington, Esq. whose son, Sir Thomas, became recorder of York; lord-keeper in 1647; speaker to parliament in 1656; and lord chief baron in 1658. From this family it descended, by the female line, to Ralph Riddell, Esq. the father of its present possessor. Near it, in 1802, some curious brass spear heads were found in making a ditch.

LITTLE BAVINGTON is the seat of Sir Cuthbert Shaftoe, Knight, to whose ancestors it belonged in 1304. It has a large sheet of water in front, and is surrounded with young plantations. The ground about this place and Throckerington is celebrated for the excellency of its sheep walks.

KIRK HARLE was a manor of the Bolbeck barony. It is the name of a parish, and of the seat of Sir William Lorraine, Bart. It belonged to Sir Robert Herle in the reign of Edward the First, and to the ancestors of its present possessor about the year 1420. The seat is in a low situation, sheltered with tall forest trees. Near it is a stone pillar, erected on the spot where Robert Lorraine, Esq. was slain by a band of Moss-troopers, in Queen Elizabeth's reign. This family came into

† Gough's Camb. iii. p. 251,

England with the Conqueror, by whom they were infeoffed with lands in the county of Durham: they obtained this estate by marriage of a co-heiress of William del Strother, of Kirkharle Tower, in the reign of Henry the Fifth.

LITTLE HARLE was a manor of the barony of Prudhoe. It belonged to John de Fenwick in 1551; and to William Ainsley in 1567, the heiress of which family, in 1793, married the Honourable Charles Lord Murray, youngest son of the Duke of Athol; his lordship took the name of Ainsley, and was Dean of Bocking. Since his death, *Little Harle Tower* has been the residence of his relict.

CAPHEATON is said to have been in the hands of the Swinburnes since 1264. Leland calls it "Huttun, a fair castle, in the midste of Northumberland, as in the bredthe of it. It is three or four miles from Fenwicke Pile, and this is the oldest house of the Swynburnes." Sir Thomas, of this house, in 1405, in company with Lord Berkley and Henry May, Esq. took fourteen French ships, carrying provisions to Milford Haven. This family, and the Swinburnes of Edlingham castle, intermarried in the time of Charles the First, since which time their chief residence has been here. The mansion house was built about the year 1668, by Sir John Swinburne, who was created a baronet in 1660; and died in 1706. The present possessor, Sir John, who is the sixth baronet of the family, has made great improvements here, by building his cottages after regular plans, and sheltering his estate with large plantations.

In the beginning of the last century, a great number of Roman coins, and vessels of silver, were found near this seat, by some workmen employed in making a hedge. The coins were all privately sold; as were also most of the vessels, after breaking the bottoms out of some, and the ornaments and handles off others. They presented to Sir John Swinburne, the grandfather of the present baronet, one cup entire, weighing twenty-six ounces; the bottoms of three others; three handles, adorned with beautiful figures in relief; part of another carved handle; a figure

a figure of Hercules and Anteus wrestling; and a figure of Neptune. These have all been described in a late volume of the Archæologia.

BOLAM was the barony of Gilbert de Bolam, and granted to him by King John. From 1345, to 1688, it, in a great measure, belonged to the Raymes family. The heiress of the *Horsleys* of Bolam, in 1809, married the Rev. J. H. Beresford, son of the present Archbishop of Tuam, who resides at *Bolam Hall*. The *church* is very ancient: in it is the figure of a knight templar, supposed to be the effigies of Sir Walter de Bolam; also a tomb of the Middletons of Belsay Castle. The village is said to have formerly consisted of two hundred slated houses. The *camp* west of it, is oval; near which, on both sides of the highway, are inequalities in the earth, which appear like linear intrenchments. Farther west is *Gallow Hill*, used by the barons as a place of execution, before the power of hanging was taken from them; and still farther west, by Watling Street, on Bolam Moor, is a *tumulus* of earth, between two large upright stones, in which Mr. Warburton found a stone coffin, about three feet long, two broad, and two deep, smoked within, and containing nothing but several lumps of glutinous matter.

HARNHAM, seen before a setting sun, appears like one of the fine towered hills in the pictures of Nicholas le Poussin. "It stands on an eminence, and has been a place of great strength and security; a range of perpendicular rocks on one side, and a morass on the other; the entrance by a narrow declivity to the north, which, in the memory of some persons now living, had an iron gate. The manor house is on the south-west corner of the precipice, built on to an old tower. In Charles the Second's time it was the seat of Colonel Philip Babbington, Governer of Berwick upon Tweed: his first wife, dying under excommunication, was interred in a vault cut out of the solid rock, below the tower." *

* Wallis, ii. 538.

BELSAY CASTLE, the seat of Sir Charles Miles Lambert Monck, stands on a rising ground, finely interspersed with single trees and thick groves of wood. It has a grey, neutral appearance, and consists of a venerable tower, to which extensive additions were made by Charles Middleton, Esq. who died in 1628. "In a field to the south is a domestic chapel;" and above the castle an ancient stone cross. Sir Charles, who paid great attention to Grecian architecture, in his travels through Asia Minor, has commenced a new mansion on a large scale, and on a style of the greatest elegance. The Middletons forfeited this place in 1317; but one of them marrying a sole heiress of the Strivelings, who were then possessed of Belsay, they were again infeoffed in this part of their estate, by Henry the Fifth. Sir William was created a baronet in 1662. His son, Sir John, married the sole heiress of John Lambert, Esq. of Calton, in Craven, whose ancestor, William Lambert, married Gundred, grand-daughter of William the Conqueror: general Lambert, who commanded the forces of the Commonwealth, was of this family, and his official seal is at Belsay Castle. Sir William Middleton married Jane, only surviving daughter and heiress of Lawrence Monck, Esq. of Caenby, in Lincolnshire, at whose demise, his grandson, the present baronet, changed his name from Middleton to Monck.

HARTBURN, is a pleasant village, having a spacious Gothic church, and near it a Gothic tower, partly used as a schoolroom, and overhung with ivy. In the vicarage grounds, by the margin of the Hart, are delightful walks and arbours, formed by the late Dr. Sharpe, who was vicar of this church, and archdeacon of Northumberland.

WALLINGTON, a manor of the Bolbeck barony, belonged to John Grey, in 1326, from whose family it passed, by an heiress, to William del Strother; and from him, in like manner, to Sir John Fenwick, of Fenwick Tower, in Henry the Fourth's time: his descendant, Sir John Fenwick, who built the great eating hall in Christ's Hospital, and was executed for high treason, sold it

to

to Sir William Blackett, of Newcastle upon Tyne, whose granddaughter marrying Sir Walter Calverley, of Calverley, in Yorkshire, that baronet took the name of Blackett, and, at his demise, this estate fell to his nephew, Sir John Trevelyan, of Nettlecomb, in Somersetshire, whose son John succeeded him in his title and estate, in 1768, and is yet alive. Leland calls "Wallington Castle the chefest house of the Fenwicks." The present edifice is a spacious and handsome structure, of white freestone, finely hewn. Behind it is a large gateway; and on the east, north, and west, thick groves of luxuriant forest trees. At the bottom of the lawn runs the Wansbeck; crossed by an elegant stone bridge, with three arches, and open battlements. A mile east, over the same river, is a stone bridge, at the south end of which, on each side of the road, are grass-grown ruins, of a considerable village. Also, within the precincts of this estate, is

CAMBOE, that is, *Camp Hill*, which, in Henry the Third's time, was the seat of *Robert de Camhoe*, sheriff of this county in three successive years. Here was formerly a chapel, in the ruins of which were lately found grave-stones, with emblematic devices cut upon them, now in the walls of a barn. This also was the birth place of Mr. BROWN, usually called CAPABILITY, and celebrated for his taste in landscape gardening, and domestic architecture.

ROTHLEY CASTLE, which, from many points of view, has the appearance of the seat of some ancient baron, was built for effect, by the late Sir W. C. Blackett. It is on a rugged eminence, in a park of its own name, and which, thirty-five years since, was full of deer;* but since that time has been disparked, and put under cultivation. Near it were two fine sheets of water, hemmed with shrubberies.

LONGWITTON HALL, is an ancient building, fronting the south, and having a thick grove of wood on the north, east, and west. It formerly belonged to a branch of the Swinburne family,

* Wallis, ii. 523.

mily; was sold to the Blacketts; and descended to Sir John Trevelyan, Bart. At present it is occupied by James Fenwick, Esq. Below the garden, on the margin of the Wansbeck, in an oak wood, are three medicinal fountains, called *Thurston Wells.*

NETHERWITTON, formerly called *Witton-by-the-Waters*, has a small chapel, under Hartburn. A cotton manufactory was established here about twenty years since; but, as it never flourished, was soon discontinued. Here was the seat of Roger Thornton, Esq. the munificent patron of Newcastle. He was probably born at the neighbouring hamlet of *Thornton.** Tradition represents him as rising out of poverty to great opulence, which he acquired in merchandize, and mines of lead in Weardale.† He died in 1429. The *tower* he built here has long since fallen into ruins. The present mansion, which is a handsome structure of white freestone, is the residence of Walter Trevelyan, Esq. and, with the estate, came to him by marriage with Jane, eldest daughter of James Thornton, Esq.

MORPETH,

is supposed to derive its name from some *path* to it, over a *Moor*. The Testa de Nevill describes it as the barony of Roger de Merlay, held of the king by four knights' service; and that the predecessors of that baron, had held it from the time of the Conquest, without any part of it being alienated. This Roger was the third of that name. The first of them, in 1199, obtained, from the crown, licence for a market for his borough,

* "*Thornton*, says Warburton, (in a letter to R. Gale, Esq. 9th Jan. 1717-8) though at present an inconsiderable village, shews the vestigia in it of a remarkable town in former times: a high ridged military way runs through the middle of it, and a square platform joins to it, both which are evidently Roman.

† See Bourne's Neve. p. 205.

borough, and an annual fair on Magdalen Day; his successor ornamented the borough, and founded an hospital at *Catchburn;* and Roger the Third granted to his burgesses many immunities. He died in 1265, leaving two co-heiresses; Mary, the eldest, married to William Lord Greystock; and Jonanna, married to Robert de Somerville. The whole of this barony descended to Lord Greystock, and from him to his son John, who divided his grandfather Merlay's possessions between himself and his uncle, Robert de Somerville; but having no issue, and his brother William being dead, he settled his moiety of this, and his other estates, on his relation, Ralph Fitz-William, who assumed the name and title of Ralph Lord Greystock: he built a chantry in Tynemouth church, and, after possessing the estate nine years, died in 1316. His successors were: Ralph, who died in 1317. Ralph, who was poisoned at Gateshead, in 1324, by the revengeful adherents of Sir Gilbert Middleton, whom his lordship apprehended for treason, in the castle of Mitford. William, who was summoned to parliament in 1352, and, after building the castles of Greystock and Morpeth, died in 1355. Ralph, was in five parliaments; he had the direction of the expedition against the Scots, in 1380, when he was taken prisoner, at Horseridge, in Glendale, by the Earl of Dunbar: his ransom cost 3000 marks, towards which the burgesses of Morpeth paid 7l. 13s. 10d.; he was a benefactor to the priories of Brinkburn and Newminster, and died in 1417. John, died in 1435. Ralph, was in four parliaments; he died in 1486, when his estates devolved upon his grand-daughter, Elizabeth, Baroness Greystock and Wemme; who married Thomas Lord Greystock, of Gilsland, in whose family these possessions continued, till issue male failing, they devolved, in 1566, upon his two grand-daughters and co-heiresses, Anne, married to Philip, Earl of Arundel; and Elizabeth, to William Howard, third son of Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, and from whom they have lineally descended to the present Earl of Carlisle.

"I have no particulars," says Camden," from ancient history,

tory, relative to this place, except that, in 1215, it was burnt down by its own inhabitants, out of hatred to King John." Leland calls it a "long town, metely well buylded, with low howsys, the stretes pavyd. It is a far fayrar towne then Alenwike. Morpeth *Castle* standeth by Morpeth town. It is set on a high hill, and about the hill is moche wood." Nothing now remains of the castle, but part of the gateway-tower, and fragments of the outward wall. The tower has formerly had angular turrets at the north-east and south-east corners, communicating by an open gallery, supported on corbules. Near the castle, on the north side, is a round *mound of earth*, on a natural mount, whose height is greatly assisted by art, probably a malvoisin in some blockade. The town was also burnt down, in 1689, when the loss was estimated at 3,500l. At present it is neat, and pleasantly seated among woody, undulating hills. It is a *prescriptive borough*, governed by two bailiffs and seven burgesses. It first sent members to parliament in 1553. The *market* is on Wednesdays, and affords the principal supply of fat cattle and sheep for the consumption of Newcastle, Shields, and Sunderland. Here is the county gaol for Northumberland. The town-house, from a design by Vanbrugh, was built at the expence of the Earl of Carlisle, in 1714. On the market-house is inscribed: "The Hon. Philip Howard, and Sir Henry Belosyse, Knt. the only benefactors of this cross. Anno Dom. 1659." The *parish church* is on Kirk Hill, a quarter of a mile out of the town; but there is a good ring of bells, in a square tower, near the market-place. At the bridge end is a chapel; and, adjoining it, in an old chantry, a good free-school, founded by King Edward the Sixth. There was also formerly here an hospital for the sick. The population, in 1801, amounted to 2,951 persons. Dr. William Turner, the first English botanist and ornithologist; and Dr. William Gibson, author of "A Book of Herbs," and "The Treason of the Prelates since the Conquest," were born in this town; and Mr. Horsley, the learned author of the "Britannia Romana," was several years minister

eer of a dissenting congregation here. He died in 1732, aged forty-six.

" A qwartar of a mile owt of the towne, on the hithere syde of Wanspeke, was NEW MINSTER Abbay of white monks, pleasaunt with water, and very fayre wood about it."* The Cistersians came here, under the patronage of Ranulphus de Merlay, in 1138, who, in the next year, founded this house. Its abbot was several times summoned to the parliaments of Edward the First.† The catalogue of its benefactors is long; and its revenues, at the dissolution, by Speed's account, amounted to 140l. 10s. 4d. Only a fragment of a door-way remains. James the First granted its scite to the Brandlings; at present it belongs to William Ord, Esq. of Whitfield Hall, M. P. for Morpeth.

MITFORD, at the time of the Conquest, was a villa and lordship of Sir John Mitford, whose only daughter, Sibel, was married to Richard Bertram, a Norman. It was created a barony by Henry the First; and forfeited by Roger Bertram, one of the confederate barons, in the reign of Henry the Third. Part of it was afterwards given to Eleanor Stantour, wife of Robert de Stoteville; but Edward the Second granted the entire barony to Adomar de Valence, Earl of Pembroke: from whom the greater part of it descended, by marriage, to David de Strabolgy, Earl of Athol: but issue male failing in his son David, it passed, by female heirs, to Henry Percy, and in the same manner from him, in Henry the Sixth's time, to Thomas Brough, Esq. Queen Mary, and afterwards Charles the Second, granted it to the Mitfords of *Molesden*, a collateral branch of its ancient owners, who still enjoy it.

The *castle*, in 1215, was burnt down by King John and his Rutars, a band of Flemish troops, when they so miserably wasted this country.‡ In the next year it was beseiged by Alexander, King of Scots. Sir Gilbert de Middleton, and his associates,

* Lel. It. v. 7. fol. 75. † Stev. Dug. vol. ii. apx. p. 14.
‡ Gibson's and Gough's Camden.

associates, had possession of it in 1316. "It was beten downe," says Leland, "by the kynge; for one Sir Gilbert Middleton robby'd a cardinall cominge out of Scotland, and fled to his castle of Mitford." It stands on a high natural eminence, on the southern brink of the Wansbeck. On the south and east, great labour has been employed in forming a ditch out of the rock under its walls, which are still, in many places, thirty feet high. The *keep* is circular, of rough strong masonry; and containing small gloomy dungeons, with thick walls, and narrow loop-holes. The other buildings, within the area of the wall, are quite demolished. Near it is the *seat* of BERTRAM MITFORD, Esq.; and the parish *church*, appropriated to Lanercost Priory, and in which is a monument, with the rude effigy of one of the Bertrams, and an inscription, dated 1622. There was a *market* here in 1250. *St. Leonard's Hospital*, on the hill above the village of Mitford, was founded by Sir William Bertram, in Henry the First's reign; at present it is a gentleman's seat, and called The SPITAL.

The barony of BOTHAL was held of the king, by three knights' service, by Robert Bertram, and afterwards by his son Richard, in the time of Henry the Third. They were a younger branch of the Bertrams, of Mitford. In Edward the Third's reign, their estates passed, by an heiress, to Sir Robert Ogle, of Ogle, knight, whose posterity enjoyed this barony through a long succession. In the contest between the houses of York and Lancaster, Robert Ogle, being in the successful party, was created Lord Ogle. Cuthbert the seventh, and last of them who bore that title, had two daughters, Johanna and Catharine, the latter of whom married Charles Cavendish, of Welbeck, in Nottinghamshire, and was created Baroness Ogle. From her son William, who was created Duke of Newcastle, in 1664, it passed, by only daughters, first to John Hollis, also Duke of Newcastle; and then to Edward, Earl of Oxford and Mortimer; and, lastly, to the Duke of Portland, in whose family it still continues.

The

BOTHALL CASTLE,
Northumberland.

The *castle* was built by Sir Robert Bertram, in the time of Edward the Third. The following extract was published in the Antiquarian Repertory, from a survey, called "The Book of the Bothool Baronrye," taken in June, 1576. "To this manor of Bothoole belongeth ane castell, in circumference cccclxxxx foote, wherto belongeth ane castell, great chaulmer, parler, vij bed chaulmers, one galare, butterie, pantrie, lardenor, kitchinge, backhouse, brewhouse, a stable, an court, called the yethouse, wharin thare is a prison, a porter loge, and diverse faire chaulmering, an common stable, and a towre called Blanke Towre; a gardine, ane nurice, chapel, and an towre called Ogles Towre, and pastrie, with many other prittie beauldings here not specified, faire gardings, and orchetts, wharin growes all kind of hearbes and flowres, and fine appiles, plumbes of all kynde, peers, damsellis, nuttes, wardens, cherries, to the black and reede, wallnutes, and also licores verie fyne, worth by the yeare XX^{L}." Of all these, only the gateway remains, and the outer walls, sadly shattered, and inclosing about two roods of land, scattered with fragments of buildings. The gateway has been lately much deformed, by a shed built against its arch: it is "flanked on the north by two polygonal towers, fifty-three feet high; and, on the south-west angle, by a square turret, whose height measures sixty feet." The scite of these ruins occupy a fine natural eminence, in the midst of a deep valley, and washed on the south by the Wansbeck. "The wood scene in the back ground slopes to the water's edge, here and there skirted by picturesque rocks." In the *church*, which stands a little distance east of the castle, is painted in black letter, a genealogical table of the Ogles, from the Conquest; and a curious tomb, belonging to that family, made of alabaster, and inclosed with iron rails. It consists of recumbent figures of one of the barons and his lady, with several emblematical figures about them; and in one part of it a shield, singularly charged with armorial devices. On the river's side, about three quarters of a mile above the castle, stood

Our

Our Lady's Chapel, built by one of the Ogles, as appeared by his arms fixed against it. It was eight yards long, and four broad. A few years since it was overgrown with trees, which had twined their roots into its walls; at present it is quite demolished.

Cockle-Park Tower, in Speed's map, is called Cockley Tower, and surrounded with a park. It was in the barony of Bothal, and was a mansion-house of the Bertrams in Edward the First's time. It has anciently been much larger towards the south, as appears by large remains of strong foundations and fragments of arches between the old and new parts. A record, in possession of his grace the Duke of Portland, mentions a part of it being thrown down by lightning. There are two very curious fire-places in it. In the front are the Ogles' arms: the supporters, two antelopes, collared and chained. It has machicolations on the outside, and is altogether after the fashion of the old border mansions.

Widdrington Castle was the seat of "Gerard de Woderington in 1272," who held it with "Dririg and Borndon," of the barony of Whalton, by the service of one knight's fee.* This family stands conspicuous in the list of sheriffs of this county, and as a line of heroes. Sir William was advanced to the dignity of a baron of the realm by Charles the First, and lost his life at Wigan, in Lancashire, in the cause of Charles the Second. "He was," "says Clarendon, "one of the goodliest men of his age, being near a head higher than most tall men." His grandson, William, Lord Widdrington, forfeited the estate in the rebellion in 1715; after which it was valued at 100,000l. and sold by the crown to Sir George Revel, from whom it descended, by heiresses, to Lord Bulkeley, its present possessor. The castle, though irregular and the work of various ages, was a noble structure, especially the most ancient part of it, which was a *Gothic tower*, finished with machicolations, and four round turrets, built on double tiers of corbules.

* Testa de Nevil, p. 38?.

bules. There is a good view of it by S. and N. Buck, in 1728. It was burnt down about thirty years since; and the only remaining part of it at present is an octangular, embattled tower, to which a square modern edifice has been added. It commands an extensive sea prospect to the east, and a land view towards the south as far as Tynemouth Castle.

CAUSEY PARK, a member of the Bothal barony, was the seat of a younger branch of the Ogles, of Bothal Castle, from whom it has descended to its present possessor, William Ogle Wallis Ogle. The tower of the mansion-house was built by John Ogle, Esq. in 1582. The chapel of St. Cuthbert is in ruins.

LONGHORSLEY was given by Gospatric, Earl of Dunbar, as a marriage portion to Sir Ralph Merlay, Baron of Morpeth. The tenants of this manor, in the time of Henry the Third, were compelled to keep the roads and ditches in good order, under pain of forfeiting *duas virgas ferreas*,* for every offence. Half of the village, with a deer-park, and an ancient *tower*, belong to Ralph Riddell, Esq. and the other half to C. W. Bigge, Esq. who is now employed in building a large and elegant mansion on a part of his estate here, called LINDON.

FELTON was one of the manors of the barony of Mitford, and was successively possessed by the Bartram, Pembroke, Athol, Percy, Scrope, Lisle, and Widdrington families; from which last it passed, by marriage, to the father of the present possessor, Ralph Riddell, Esq. whose seat, called *Felton Hall*, and built by the Widdringtons, stands in an old and extensive park, on the west side of the village. Here the barons of Northumberland did homage to Alexander, King of Scots, in 1215; a defection which King John punished, by laying this and other places in the neighbourhood in ashes.

On the north side of the Coquet, a few miles below Felton, is Guyzance, of note only for a *nunnery*, founded by Richard Tyson, mentioned in the Lincoln Taxation, and annexed to the abbey of Alnwick, by charter of Edward the First.

BRINKBURN

* Wallis, II. 350. Hutch. II. 519.

BRINKBURN PRIORY was founded for black canons, in the time of Henry the First, by Roger Bertram, Baron of Mitford, and dedicated to St. Peter. In 1534, it was valued by Speed, at 77l. Its possessions were granted to John, Earl of Warwick, in 1549; and again, in the same reign, to a branch of the Fenwicks, of Fenwick Tower, whose descendants sold them a few years since. Major Hodgson, their present possessor, has made great improvements about the place. The priory stands on the northern margin of the Coquet, surrounded by high banks and hanging woods. The shell of the church is still very entire, and exertions were used not many years since, to fit it up for divine service, for which purpose a brief was obtained. The north and south doors are charged with rich Saxon ornaments; the upper windows have round arches; the rest, with the arches of the tower and nave, are pointed. "There have been burials here so late as 1745. At the east end, and in the north and south crosses, were chapels; in one of which were divers fragments of coffins and human bones." In clearing away the rubbish, a circular staircase, communicating with the body of the church, has been lately laid open, and vaults for interment, formed like the kistvaen, discovered. "On the whole, though this building, except about the doors above mentioned, is remarkably plain, it has a sober and solemn majesty not always found in buildings more highly decorated. Part of this perhaps it may owe to its romantic situation."*

WARKWORTH is an ancient prescriptive borough, governed by a port-reeve, now called mayor, chosen by the free burgesses,

* Grose. Where the eastern branch of Watling Street crosses the Coquet, a little below this place, there are evident remains of a bridge; and on the hill, on the north side of the priory, are lines of fortifications, and appearances of an ancient town. John of Hexham, under the year 1154, calls this place *Brinesburch*, orthography which inclines us to believe, that this is the true situation of BRUNANBURCH, where King Athelstan, in 938, fought with such boasted success against the Irish, Welch, and Northumbrian Danes. *Sax. Ann.* 938. Mailros Chron. 937.

geance, and sworn into office by a court-leet. It has an extensive common right; a weekly *market* on Thursdays; and an annual *fair* on the Thursday before the twenty-third of November. In 1801 it contained 614 inhabitants. In the *church*, which has a tall spire, are the remains of Saxon architecture; and a cross-legged figure of Hugh de Morwic, with a modern inscription. Adjoining the church was a *cell* for two Benedictine monks, from Durham, founded by Bishop Farnham, in 1256, and endowed with the appropriation of the church of Brainston. The *bridge* is of three arches of stone; has a pillar with the Percys' arms on the middle of it; and a tower, lately repaired, at its south end.

The castle and manor of Warkworth were held of Henry the Second, by the service of one knight's fee, by Roger Fitz-Roger, whose ancestor, Serlo de Burgh, was a follower of the Conqueror. Edward the First surnamed the family *de Clavering*, from a manor in Essex, granted to them by King John. Issue male failing in John de Clavering, his estates fell by bequest to Edward the Third, who granted them, in 1327, to Henry, Lord Percy; from whose family this place was taken in the reigns of Richard the Second and Henry the Fourth, and given to Roger Humfranville, whose constable here was *Hardyng the Chronicler*. It was restored to the Percys by Henry the Fifth, and several times after seized and restored. The castle was the favourite residence of the Earls of Northumberland, and in Leland's time "well menteyned;" but in 1672, its timber and lead were granted to one of their agents, and the principal parts of it unroofed. At all points of view, and especially from the south, it is a most magnificent pile of ruin: "and, though of great strength, it seems to have been one of those hospitable mansions,"

> Where throngs of knights and barons bold,
> In weeds of peace high triumphs hold,

than

than one of "those rugged fortresses destined solely for war."* Within its moat it contains above five acres. It stands on a rock, its walls guarded with towers, and of a triangular shape, the keep forming the apex, and the southern wall, in which is the great gate between two polygonal towers, the base. The *keep* is square, with the angles canted off, and having at the middle of each side a projecting turret, semi-hexagon at its base, and of the same hight as the rest of the structure: it contains a chapel, and a variety of spacious apartments, and is finished with a lofty watch tower, commanding an almost unbounded prospect.†

Half a mile above the castle, on the brink of the Coquet, is the HERMITAGE of Warkworth, celebrated, in 1771, by the late

* Grose.

† Extract of a Survey, by G. Clarkson, in 1567, one of the auditors to the then Earl of Northumberland:—

"The buyldinge of the sayd castell on the sowth parte, is thre towres, The gate-house towre, in the middle thereof, which is th' entyre at a draw-bridge over drye moyte; and in the same towre ys a prison and porter lodge; and over the same a fare lodginge, called the constables lodginge; and in the courtayne between the gatehouse and west towre is a fare and comely buylding, a chapell, and diverse houses of office one the ground; and above the great chambre, and the lordes lodginge: all which be now in great decaye, as well in the covertour beynge lead, as also in timbre, an glass; and without some help of reparacions it will come to utter ruin.

"Over the courte from the posterne towere is the foundacion of a house, which was meant to have been a colledge, and part of the walls were builded, which, if it had been finished, would have made a perfect square. The doungion is in the north parte of the scyte of the sayd castell, set upon a little mount, higher than the rest of the cowrte..... ..... steppes of greas before you enter to yt: and the same ys buyld as foure square, and owt of every square one towre; all which be so quarterly squared together, that in sighte every parte appeareth fyve towres, very finely wrought of mason work; and in the same conteyned, as well a fare hall, kytchinge, and all other houses of offices verie fare and aptly placed, as also great chambre, chapel, and lodgings for the lord and his trayn," &c. &c.

late Bishop of Dromore, in the ballad of the *Hermit of Warkworth*. It was only for one priest, or hermit, but its origin and foundation are uncertain. The Earl of Northumberland, in his grant to the last hermit, in 1532, calls it "min armitage, belded in a rock of stone, in my parke, in honor of the Holy Trinity." As it was never endowed in mortmain, its munificent allowance reverted to the Percy family at the dissolution. Here are remains of buildings of masonry, one of them eighteen feet by seven, against the rock. But the most perfect and curious part of it consists of a chapel, sacristy, and vestibule, hewn out of a fine freestone rock, twenty feet high, and overshadowed with shrubs and stately forest trees. The entrance is by the chapel, over the door of which was formerly legible: "Sunt mihi lachrymæ meæ cibo interdice & noctu." The *chapel* is about eighteen feet long, and seven feet broad and high, and executed with great neatness in columns, groins, and arches, in the old Gothic style. It is lighted by a window of two compartments, in the sill of which lies an elegant figure of a lady; at her feet, in a niche, is a male figure kneeling, his head on his left palm, and his right palm supporting his left elbow; and an obscure figure in the pillar of the window. The altar is the breadth of the chapel, and has two steps to it. Parallel with the chapel, five feet wide, and stretching five feet round its west end, is the *sacristy*, lighted from the chapel with a Gothic window, and having the remains of an altar in it, and over its door a shield, with instruments of the passion. Its west end communicates with the *vestibule*, in which are two square niches, and from whence has been a way into an apartment of masonry, having remains of a chimney. A staircase led from the chapel door to the top of the cliff, where was the hermit's house and garden.

Coquet Island, a mile from the main land, and a mile round, is said, by Bede, to have been famous for the resort of monks in St. Cuthbert's time. It had upon it a cell of Bene-

dictines under Tynemouth, and a fortress*, the ruins of which are partly converted into a dwelling-house and light-house. It "standeth," says Leland, "upon a very good vayne of secole, and in the ebbe men digge in the shore by the clives." It abounds with rabbits, and contains about seven acres of rich pasture. The Scotch, in Charles the Second's reign, garrisoned it with 200 men, and seven pieces of cannon.

ALEMOUTH, properly *Alnemouth*, in the parish of Lesbury, has a small inconvenient harbour: its exports, corn, pork, eggs, and such like; and imports deals, and ship-building materials. On an eminence near this place were, till lately, the remains of a chapel in the form of a cross, of very ancient architecture, but deserted time out of mind: the last of it was blown down in 1806. The burial ground was used till lately, and large bones have been washed out of the sea-banks near it by the encroachments of the sea, thought by the vulgar to be bones of giants, but, by Grose, of horses, slaughtered in border skirmishes.

ALNWICK,

Is the county town of Northumberland, and an ancient borough, in which is a body corporate by prescription, consisting of four chamberlains, a common-council of twenty-four, and freemen.† It was formerly girt with a wall, three gateways, towers

* Cot. Lib. Julius, fol. x. p. 155.

† The freemen, on their admission on St. Mark's day, pass through a well, or pool, about twenty feet over, on a moor, formerly called *Arden* Forest. It is suffered to run out till about a week before the admission day; when it is dammed up, and its bottom made uneven with stones, holes, stakes, and ropes of straw, by a person who lives near, and has five shillings for each freeman made that day. In some places it comes up to the tallest person's chin; and no stick, or other help being allowed, there is usually much floundering among the mud. This done, and their cloaths

towers of which still remain. In 1801 it contained 4719 inhabitants. Its *market* is on Saturdays, and well supplied; and its *fairs*, on the twelfth of May, the last Monday in July, the first Tuesday in October, and the twenty-fourth of December. The *Town Hall* was built in 1731; the *Shambles*, which are Gothic, by the late Duke of Northumberland. At the head of Pottergate is a *tower*, in imitation of that of St. Nicholas, in Newcastle, built at the expence of the borough, in 1786: it was intended for a ring of bells; but since made a clock-house. Here are two *free-schools*; one of them for the classics, founded in 1687, rebuilt in 1741, and endowed with certain tolls: also two charity schools; and one *on Lancaster's system*, inscribed thus in its front: "For the education of 200 poor boys, this school was erected and founded by HUGH, DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND, on the twenty-fifth day of October, 1810; in commemoration of our sovereign, George the Third, having on that day completed the fiftieth year of his reign." The *church*, which is dedicated to St. Mary and St. Michael, is Gothic, 150 feet by 52. In the south aisle are three ancient recumbent effigies of persons unknown. The chancel is supported by two rows of elegant fluted pillars, with flowered capitals; and has a large open space behind the altar. Near the town, in 1726, were found on a quarry head, about twenty swords, sixteen spear heads, and forty celts; and on the face of the rock above them was rudely cut a date, 1115.

ALNWICK CASTLE, the principal seat of his grace the Duke of Northumberland, belonged to William Tyson, a Saxon baron, who was slain in the battle of Hastings; and whose daughter, and possessions, were given by the conqueror to Ivo de Vesco, one of his

cloaths shifted, they ride the bounds of the moor, attended by the two oldest inhabitants as guides; each of the newly-initiated alighting from his horse every quarter of a mile, to cast a stone upon the boundary cairns or kirocks. This road, which is about twelve miles, is over many dangerous precipices. Tradition assigns this custom to a capricious mandate of King John.

followers. Ivo's heiress, by Henry the First, was married to Eustace Fitz John, whose descendant, Eustace de Vescy, held this baronry of Henry the Third, by the service of thirteen knights' fees.* William de Vescy, the last baron of this family, died in 1297, leaving the barony of Malton, in Yorkshire, to Gilbert de Aitun, who had married his only daughter; and this barony to Anthony Bec, Bishop of Durham, in trust for his natural son, William de Vescy, a minor. The bishop, after holding it seven years, sold it to Henry Lord Percy, in 1310; and since that time it has shared the fortune and vicissitudes of that powerful family.†

This

* Test. de Nev. 392.

† The Percy family derive their descent from Manfred Percy, who came out of Denmark into Normandy, before Rollo; and William and Sexto, fifth in descent from him, came into England with the Conqueror. The male line failed till Henry II. but Agnes marrying Joseline de Louain, Henry, the fifth of their descendants (who had assumed the name of Percy) was created Earl of Northumberland, 51 Edward III." His brother Thomas, Earl of Worcester, and his renowned son, Hotspur, were slain at the battle of Shrewsbury. After this he was attainted, but soon after taken into favour; though he again engaged in rebellion, and fell at Barham Moor, in 1406. Henry, son of Henry Hotspur, in the beginning of the reign of Henry the Fifth, was restored to his father's estate and title; but was slain in the battle of St. Alban's, in 1454. His son, Henry, the third earl, fell in the battle of Towton. After this John Nevil, Lord Montague, was created Earl of Northumberland; but, in 1469, resigned it to Henry Percy, eldest son of the third earl. He also fell by the sword, being slain in an insurrection of peasants against the collectors of the taxes, at Coxlodge, near Thirsk, in Yorkshire, in 1488. Henry his son, the fifth earl, died in 1516, and was buried near his father, at Beverley. His son and successor, Henry, died in 1537, leaving no issue. Soon after this, John Dudley, Earl of Warkworth, was created Duke of Northumberland, after whose decolation, Thomas, son of Thomas Percy, who was put to death for taking up arms against Henry the Eighth, obtained his uncle's titles in 1556; but being committed to the Tower, on suspicion of treason, he shot himself, June 21, 1584. His brother Henry succeeded him, according to the tenure of Queen Mary's patent, and in 1585, ended his days

in

This castle stands on elevated ground, on the south side of the Alne. "It is believed," says Grose, "to have been founded by the Romans; for when a part of the castle-keep was taken down to be repaired some years ago, under the present walls were discovered the foundations of other buildings, which lay in a different direction from the present, and some of the stones appeared to have Roman mouldings. The zigzag fretwork round the arch leading to the inner court is evidently of Saxon architecture; and yet this was probably not the most antient entrance, for under the flag tower (before that part was taken down and rebuilt by the present duke) was the appearance of a gateway, that had been walled up, directly fronting the present outward gateway into the town." It was a considerable fortress in 1093, in which year it withstood the

 memorable

in prison. "Henry Percy, the ninth earl, was not restored to his honours till 4 Charles I. having been imprisoned in the Tower most of the reign of James I. for misprison of treason concerning the powder plot. He died and was buried at Petworth, 1632. He was succeeded by his son, Algernon, buried at the same place, 1668. His successor was his son Josceline, buried there, 1670. Dying without issue male, the barony devolved on his daughter, Elizabeth, married to Henry Cavendish, Earl of Ogle (only son and heir of Henry, Duke of Newcastle) who took the name and arms of Percy, and died and was buried at Petworth, 1680. Algernon, her son by her second husband, Charles Seymour, Duke of Somerset, was the twelfth Earl of Northumberland, by creation, 1749, 23 George II. being at the same time Duke of Somerset. He died $17\frac{4}{5}\frac{8}{8}$, and was buried in Westminster Abbey. His only son George dying before him, 1744, the title devolved to his only sister Elizabeth, married 1740 to Sir Hugh Smithson, Bart. who succeeded in the title of earl 1750, on the death of the Duke of Somerset, and 1766 was created Duke of Northumberland. He died June 4, 1786, and was buried in Westminster Abbey, and succeeded by his eldest son, and namesake, Hugh, fourteenth Duke of Northumberland. His brother Algernon, in consequence of his father having been created Lord Lovaine, Baron of Alnwick, is now a peer of Great Britain, by these titles. The titles of Earl and Duke of Northumberland had before been conferred, by Charles II. 1683, on his natural son, George Fitzroy, with whom they both expired."—Gough's Camd. III. 258.*

memorable siege against Malcolm, King of Scots, and his son, Prince Edward, both of whom were slain before it.* William the Third, of Scotland, was taken prisoner here in 1174. King John burnt it down in 1216. After 1310, it underwent a thorough repair. The two octagonal towers were added to the old Saxon gateway, in the inner ward, in 1350, as is apparent from the numerous shields upon them. It consists of three wards, and contains within its outer walls about five acres. The walls are flanked with sixteen towers, most of which are fitted up in a style as suitable to their architecture as is convenient with modern manners. The battlements of the towers are embellished with grotesque figures of warriors, many of them ancient, others added by the late duke, who, on his accession to the estate, restored the whole of the edifice from a ruin to its present magnificence. The *saloon* in the citadel is forty-two feet by thirty-nine, and ornamented with pictures of the ninth, tenth, and eleventh Earls of Northumberland. The *drawing-room* is forty-six feet by thirty-five; and the *dining-room* fifty-four feet by twenty-one, exclusive of a circular recess, nineteen feet in diameter. The *chapel* is fifty feet by twenty-one, ceiled in the manner of King's College, in Cambridge, the walls painted like the great church of Milan, and the windows of painted glass of great lightness and elegance.

Alnwick Abbey, sweetly seated on the northern margin of the Alne, was the first house of the Premonstratensians in England: they settled at it in 1147, when Eustace Fitz John, who took the surname of Vescy, gave them a foundation charter and rich endowments. Its abbot was frequently summoned to parliament. In 1534 it was valued at 189l. 15s. and was granted to Sadler and Winnington in 1549. The Brandlings

* A cross was erected, in 1774, by the Duchess of Northumberland, on the place where Malcolm fell, her grace being lineally descended from him.

lings made it their seat several years, and after them the Doubledays, by whose heirs its scite was lately sold to the Duke of Northumberland. A gateway tower of it remains, on which are armorial shields of the Percys, crosses, and a niche richly crowned with open Gothic work. *St. Leonard's Hospital*, in Alnwick, was granted to it by Lord Percy, in 1375. The chronicle of this abbey is in King's College Library, Cambridge.

HULNE ABBEY stands in a woody and delightful solitude, in Hulne Park, three miles above Alnwick. Among the English barons who went to the Holy Wars, in the time of Henry the Third, were William Lord Vescy, and Ralph Gray. In a visit to Mount Carmel, they found among its monks one Ralph Fresburn, a Northumberland gentleman, who had signalized himself in a former crusade, and whom they intreated the superior of the monastery to permit to return with them; their request was granted, on condition that they founded a house for Carmelites at home. After their return, Fresburn, it is said, fixed upon this spot, from its striking resemblance to Mount Carmel, and, at his own expence, began to lay the foundations of this abbey in 1240; it was endowed by the Lords of Alnwick. John Bale, the biographer, lived and studied here. Its outer walls and gateways are still very entire; but its numerous chapels, oratories, and offices, are much dilapidated. The most perfect part of it is a fine tower, which was fitted up in the Gothic style, by the late duke: on the wall adjoining is this inscription, in old English letters, in relief:—

xx
In the year of Crist Jhu m.cccc.iii & viii*
This towr was bilded by Sir Hen. Percy
The fourth erle of Northūberlād of gret honr & worth
That espoused Maud ye good lady full of virtue & bewty
Daugter to Sir Willm Herbert, right noble & hardy

* Anno 1468, about the time he was restored to his father's possessions and earldom. See Coll. Peer. VI. 702.

Erle of Pembroch whose soules god save
And with his grace cōserve ye buildr of this towr.

Howick was a manor of the Muschamp barony, in Henry the Third's reign, and afterwards engrafted upon that of William de Vescy, of whom it was held by *Adam Rybaud*, by service of one knight's fee.* Huntercombie, one of the representatives of the Muschamps, however, died seized of half of it, either in 1313 or 1317. *Sir Ralph Grey*, of Chillingham, held a mediety of it in the reign of Henry the Eighth; and the whole of it was possessed by his descendant, John Grey, Esq. in 1701, whose son, Henry, was created a baronet in 1746; died in 1759; and was succeeded in his title and property by his eldest son Henry, at whose decease, in 1808, Howick descended to his nephew *Charles Grey, Earl Grey, and Viscount Howick*, who for many years distinguished himself for his uniform opposition to Mr. Pitt's administration; and, as the first Lord of the Admiralty, became a colleague in government with Mr. Fox. The "little *pile*," or tower of Howick, mentioned by Leland, "was entered," says Wallis, "by a flight of steps, and was a fair structure, to the end of which, the first Sir Henry Grey built a large handsome house, and elegant offices." This pile was taken down in 1787, when the present noble structure was commenced. Payne and other architects gave designs for it; but it was chiefly executed under the direction of Mr. Newton, of Newcastle. Its internal arrangements, furniture, and decorations, were last year almost entirely renewed; the wings joined to the centre by two additions, the fronts of which form the arcs of a quadrant; new gateways made; the approaches altered; and the lawn broken into a better style. It stands within a mile of the sea. The *church*, which is on the margin of a brook, that skirts the lawn, was built by the first baronet, though he was not its patron, and is an edifice of great neatness, without a tower, flat roofed, and in the Greek style.

CRASTER.

* Test de Nev. 384.

CRASTER. *William de Craucestr'* held *Craucestr'*, in 1272, of the barony of John le Viscount, by the service of half a knight's fee, and at present it is the seat and manor of his lineal descendant *Shaftoe Craster*, Esq. The hall, which is built of basalt, stands in a deep grove of forest trees, and has fine sea views through the chasms of a bold chain of broken rocks, that run between it and the shore. The grounds about it are kept exceedingly neat and trim. The *village* of Craster, on an inlet of the sea, is inhabited by fishermen.

DUNSTANBROUGH was a manor and estate of Prince Edmund, Earl of Lancaster, whose son Thomas obtained a licence, in 1315, to make a *castle* of his manor-house in this place. He was the most powerful and opulent subject in Europe in his time; but becoming general of the confederate army that opposed Edward the Third, he was beheaded, and afterwards canonized. This estate and fortress were restored to his brother, and continued in the Lancastrian house till after the battle of Hexham, when certain of Queen Margaret's adherents, namely, Sir Richard Tunstall, Thomas Findern, Dr. Morton, and others, with 120 men, continuing within it in arms, it was besieged by Lords Wenlock, Hastings, and two others, with a large force, and, after three days assault, was taken, and battered into ruins, in which state it has ever since continued. It stands upon a high whinstone rock, accessible on the south, but naturally defended by a rocky declivity on the west, and by the sea and abrupt frightful precipices on the east and north. Nothing at present remains of it but its outworks, which are in the form of a crescent, and chiefly consist of the shell of the keep, on the highest ground on the west; of a strong gloomy gateway, defended by two large round towers; and of three square towers in the southern wall. Its area contains about nine acres; and, in one year, is said to have produced 240 Winchester bushels of corn, besides several loads of hay. Hexangular crystals, called *Dunstanbrough diamonds*,

diamonds, are sometimes found here, which are not inferior to those of Bristol in hardness and lustre.

The village of *Dunstan* is celebrated as the birth-place of DUNS SCOTUS, the famous opposer of Aquinas. In one of his MS. works, are these words:—"Explicit lectura *Doctoris Subtiles* in Universitate Oxoniensi super quartum librum sententiarum, scilicet, Domini Johannis Duns, nati in quadam villula parochiæ de Emylton, vocata Dunstan, in Comitatu Northumbriæ, pertinente domui Scholarum de Merton Hall in Oxonia, et quondam socii dictæ domus." This place belongs to Merton College to this day.

In this parish also is FALLOWDEN HOUSE, the seat of the late Earl Grey, which he inherited from his mother, who was an heiress, of the name of Wood. His lordship signalized himself, as a general, in America, and in the West Indies; and was created a peer of the realm, by the title of Baron Grey de Howick, in 1801; and of Earl Grey, Viscount Howick, in 1806. At present it is in possession of the Countess Dowager Grey.

"The Farn Islands," says Pennant, "form two groups of little isles and rocks, to the number of seventeen; but at low water the points of others appear above the surface. They are rented for 16l. per annum: their produce is kelp, some few feathers, and a few seals, which the tenant watches and shoots, for the sake of the oil and skins. Some of them yield a little grass. The nearest isle to the shore is called House Island, which lies exactly one mile and sixty-eight chains from the coast. On this sequestered spot St. Cuthbert spent the two last years of his life." Here was afterwards established a *priory* for six benedictine monks, subordinate to Durham. It was valued, in 1531, at 12l. 17s. 8d. The remains of it are sadly shattered. Part of the square tower, which Leland says was built by "Prior Castel of Durham, the last save one," is still standing. There is a *light house* here, and a well of fine fresh water.

ELLINGHAM

BAMBOROUGH CASTLE,
Northumberland.

ELLINGHAM is the name of a parish, and was the barony of Ralph de Gaugy in Henry the Third's reign. In 1378 it was a lordship of the heroic knight, Sir Alan de Heton, whose name, at his death, was extinct in co-heiresses. In 1460, on the attainder of the Earl of Northumberland, it was given, with some other manors, to the king's brother, George, Duke of Clarence. John Swinburne, of Chapwell, in the county of Durham, forfeited it in the rebellion in 1769. The *hall*, which is an ancient building, much repaired last year, is the seat of Thomas Huggerston, Esq. a brother of Sir Carnaby, and who inherited this estate from his uncle Edward.

BAMBURGH CASTLE stands upon a basalt rock, of a triangular shape, high, rugged, and abrupt, on the land side; flanked by the sea, and strong natural rampires of sand, matted together with sea rushes, on the east; and only accessible to an enemy on the south-east, which is guarded by a deep dry ditch, and a series of towers in the wall, on each side of the gateway. The rock is beautifully besprinkled with lichens of various rich tints; it rises 150 feet above the level of the sea, and lies upon a stratum of mouldering stone, apparently scorched with violent heat, and having beneath it a close flinty sandstone. Its crown is girt with walls and towers, which, on the land side, have been nearly all repaired; but on the east are still ruinous. The outer gateway stands between two fine old towers, with time-worn heads; twelve paces within it is a second gate, which is machicolated, and has a portcullis; and within this, on the left hand, and on a lofty point of rock, is a very ancient round tower, of great strength, commanding a pass, subject to every kind of annoyance from the besieged. "This fort wears the most ancient appearance, and challenges the Saxons for its origin." The *keep** stands on the area of the rock,

* Wallis, and others, thought the base of this tower was of Roman origin, which Grose contradicts. As "three Roman denarii, one of them a Vespasian," were found here, we may fairly conclude, that this was the scite of one of the Castella built by Agricola, in his third campaign in Britain.

rock, having an open space around it. It is square, and of that kind of building which prevailed from the Conquest till about the time of Henry the Second. It had no chimney; but fires had been made in the middle of a large room, the floor of which was of stone, supported by arches, and the light admitted into it by a window near its top, three feet square. All the other rooms were lighted by slit holes, six inches broad. It is built of small stones, from a quarry at Sunderland-on-the-Sea, three miles distant: within it is a draw-well, discovered in 1770, in clearing the cellar from sand and rubbish; its depth is 145 feet, cut through solid rock, of which seventy-five feet is of whinstone. Dr. Sharpe repaired one story of it for a court room for the manor; at present the trustees under Lord Crewe's will, reside in it. The drawing-room is hung round with *tapestry*, in which is wrought the life of Marcus Aurelius; and with portraits of Lord and Lady Crewe, and Dr. Sharpe. The *library* is extensive, is circulated gratis for twenty miles round, and was the bequest of Dr. Sharpe. The remains of the chapel were found under a prodigious mass of land in 1773. The chancel is separated from the nave, thirty-six feet by twenty, and, after the Saxon fashion, semicircular at the east end. The ancient font was discovered, and is preserved in the keep. The altar had a passage round it. The rebuilding of this edifice has been commenced on its old foundations.

" St. Bede, in describing the besieging and burning of it by Penda, the Mercian, says, it had its name from Queen Bebba. But Matthew of Westminster tells us, that Ida, first King of Northumberland, built it, fortifying it first with wooden palisadoes, and afterwards with a wall. But take the following description of it from Roger Hoveden:—' Bebba is a strong city, not very large, but including about two or three acres, having one entrance hollowed out, and raised with steps, in a surprizing manner, and on the top of the hill a beautiful church, and to the west, at the top, a fountain, adorned with extraordinary workmanship, sweet to the taste, and clear to the eye.

eye. 'At this time it is rather a castle than a city, though large enough to pass for a city.'* Alfred calls it ðа cynelican burh. ðe mon nemep Bebban burh. Penda attempted to burn it in 672, by setting fire to piles of wood laid against its walls; but the wind blowing contrary, the flames caught his own camp, and he was obliged to raise the siege. Birthric, after being some time besieged here, in 705, sallied out, and took Eardulf prisoner, and routed his army. Here Oswald's reliques were kept, and wrought miracles. It was destroyed in 993 by the Danes; but about the time of the Conquest was in good repair. William Rufus besieged Earl Mowbray here; but finding the place impregnable, he built a tower of *Malvoisin* against it, and leaving a strong garrison, marched southward. The earl escaped, but was taken at Tynemouth: his wife, and Governor Morel, held out, till the king threatened to put out his eyes unless they surrendered, which they accordingly did. Edward the First summoned Baliol to meet him here, and, on his refusal, invaded Scotland, and took him prisoner; and here his successor sheltered his favourite Gaveston, in 1310. It lost the greatest part of its beauty in a siege after the battle of Hexham. "From that time it has suffered by time and winds, which throw up incredible quantities of sand from the sea upon its walls, through the windows, which are open."†

Sir John Forster was governor of it in Elizabeth's reign; and his grandson John obtained a grant of it and the manor, from James the First. His descendant, Thomas, forfeited it in 1715; but his maternal uncle, Nathaniel, Lord Crewe, Bishop of Durham, purchased his estates, and bequeathed them to charitable purposes. He died in 1720. The trustees under his will, reside here in turn, and at their own expence. Archdeacon Sharpe, about the year 1757, began the repairs of the castle, on which he expended large sums out of his own purse. Much has been done since his time; and it affords matter

* Camden. † Ibid.

matter of high gratification, to see this venerable fortress gradually reclaimed from ruin, and converted into apartments for the most wise and benevolent uses. A large room is fitted up for educating the boys of the neighbourhood, on Dr. Bell's system. A suite of rooms are allotted to two mistresses, and twenty poor girls, who, from their ninth year, are lodged, clothed, and educated, till they be fit for service. Here too is a market for meal and groceries, which are sold to the poor at prime cost, on Tuesdays and Fridays. Medicines and advice are given at the infirmary on Wednesdays and Saturdays; and, in 1810, 1050 out-patients were admitted to its benefit, and thirty-six in-patients; of whom thirty-four died, eight were sent to Newcastle infirmary, and the rest either cured or relieved. Various signals too are made use of, to warn vessels in thick and stormy weather, from the rocks of the Fern Islands. A life-boat, and all kinds of implements useful in saving crews and their vessels in distress, are always in readiness: also beds for shipwrecked sailors; and all means used to prevent wrecks from being plundered, and for restoring them to their owners.

The town of Bamburgh was once of considerable importance, as appears from the Testa de Nevill, and the numerous passages respecting it in Madox's History of the Exchequer. It gives name to a shire, ward, and deanery; sent members to the parliament in 1294; contributed a ship to the siege of Calais, in Edward the Third's reign; and had a market, now disused. Here was a monastery for Austin friars, founded in 1137, subordinate to Nostel abbey, valued by Speed at 124l. 15s. 7d. granted, in 1545, to John Forster, whose descendants had a seat in its premises, lately pulled down. Also a monastery of friars preachers, founded by Henry the Third, in 1265, given by Queen Elizabeth to Reve and Pindar, and called, by Leland, "a fayre college, a little without the town, now clean gone down." St. Mary Magdalen's hospital was licensed by Edward the Second. The church is dedicated to St. Aiden; has

has a cross-legged figure in it, called, by tradition, Sir Lancelot du Lake; monuments of the Forsters; and old armour suspended from the chancel roof. Lord Crewe's trustees have lately made great improvements here, by building cottages on uniform plans.

In this neighbourhood, at *Spindeston*, is a camp, nearly round, with a triple ditch and rampart, and two exploratory hills on the south, and one on the north. A little west is another, in the form of a crescent, triple trenched, and with ramparts of uncemented stones. There is a ballad called, the *Laidley Worm, of Spindleston Heugh*, said to be 500 years old, and composed by Duncan Frazier, a Cheviot bard, in 1270. The camp at *Out Chester*, is square, and, as its form and name indicate, of Roman origin.

EDDERSTONE, in Bamburgh parish, was the seat of Sir Thomas Forster, Knight, in the reign of Henry the Eighth, and of his descendants, till the year 1763, when it went into the Bacon family, who built the present mansion, and sold it lately to J. Pratt, Esq.

BELFORD

was a manor of the barony of Wooler; and after male issue failed in the Muschamps, was held in medieties, from the time of Edward the First to the tenth of Elizabeth, by the families of Graham, Huntercombie, Lylburne, Meinells, D'Arcy, and Conyers. The Forsters possessed it in 1638; and after being sold by the descendants of Abraham Dixon, Esq. who resided upon it in 1759, it was lately purchased by William Clarke, Esq. The mansion-house was built from designs of Payne; but has suffered much from neglect. The chapel is parochial under Bamburgh; it was built in 1700; or the bells hang, as in many parts of Scotland, on a frame on the outside of the gable." The old chapel is in ruins on an adjoining hill. The town

town is small, but pleasant; has a market on Tuesdays, and fairs on the Tuesday before Whitsuntide, and the 23d of August. "A mile south-west of it is an encampment, nearly square, with a wide foss and double rampire, the entrance on the south."

ROTHBURY,

in the oldest records concerning it, is called Robire,* or Rathbury, a name probably derived from its being the burying-place of *Rath*, or *Roth*, some Dane of distinction. There is a large *barrow* on the southern margin of the river, opposite the town, and several others in the neighbourhood. King John enfeoffed the barons of Whalton, in this *manor*, for the payment of one knight's fee.† With Warkworth it fell to the crown, and in 1330, was granted to the Percys, and entailed upon their male posterity, September the 25th,‡ 1332. The *church* is in the form of a cross, and contains a font of very curious workmanship. *Witton Tower*, a strong ancient building, with the Humfranville's arms upon its west side, is the rector's mansion. Sir Ralph Sadler recommended the "parsonaige of Rothebery, whiche is presently in the hands of one of the prebendaries of Duresme, with the yerely fee of CC^{c} (200l.) to be anexede to the castill of Harbottell."§ The inhabitants, in 1201, held their *town* of the crown, and paid fines like Newcastle and Newburne.‖ Leland calls it "such a toun as Corbrige." In 1801 it contained only 668 persons. It has the privilege of three annual fairs, and of a market on Thursdays, which last, with free forest here, and certain other franchises, was granted to the lords of the manor by King John. Its situation is dry and salubrious, on which account, and for its goat's milk, it is much resorted to by valetudinarians.

* Testa de Nev. 382, 392. † Ibid.
‡ Col. Peerage, Vol. VI. 631. § St. Pap. II. 15.
‖ Madox's Firm. Borog. 54.

rians.* On the top of a hill, between this town and Thropton, is a circular entrenchment, with a double ditch and vallum, called *Old Rothbury*, and not far from it, in a sand-stone rock, is a large cave.

Hepple was held in thenage, by the annual payment of fifty shillings, by the ancestors of William Bardolf, in whose time King John changed that service into one knight's fee. In Henry the Third's time it belonged to "Joo Taylleboys," and continued in his family till about the year 1370, when it went to the Ogles, and from that period had the same revolution of possessors as the Bothal barony, till the late Duke of Portland sold it to Sir J. B. Riddell. The castle or tower was exceedingly strong, but its remains at present are few. West of it half a mile, on Kirk Hill, was a *chapel* and *cemetery*, all trace of which were about fifty years since removed.

Cartington Castle, in early times, belonged to a family of its own name. In 1502, it was the seat of Sir Edward Ratcliff, and afterwards of Edward Widdrington, who raised a

* John Brown, D.D. was born here, in 1715, and educated at St. John's College, Cambridge. He was a Canon of Carlisle, and an active volunteer in the rebellion, in 1745. He was also Vicar of Morcland in Westmoreland, and of Lazonby, in Cumberland; afterwards Rector of Herksley, in Essex, and lastly, in 1761, Vicar of Newcastle upon Tyne, and a chaplain in ordinary to the king. The Empress of Russia invited him to assist in framing certain regulations for schools, &c. in her empire; but, while preparations were making for his voyage, he died, by an act of suicide, at his lodgings in Pall-Mall, London, September the 23d, 1766. He published, in 1751, Essays on Shaftsbury's Characteristics; in 1755, the tragedy of Barbarossa; and, in the next year, the tragedy of Athelstan. In 1757, appeared his Estimate of the Manners and Principles of the Times; and, in 1766, a Letter to Dr. Lowth, who had alluded to him, as one of Dr. Warburton's flatterers. Among his works also were: The Cure of Saul, a Poem; The History of the Rise and Progress of Poetry and Music; and Thoughts on Civil Liberty, Licentiousness, and Faction.

Biog. Brit. Brand's Newc. I. 310.

troop of horse for Charles the First, and was created a baronet in 1642, but had his estates sequestered by parliament in 1652. His daughter and coheiress, Lady Charlton, of Heslieside, founded an almshouse here, for four widows of the Roman catholic persuasion. After this a Talbot, who signalized himself, but was killed, at the siege of Buda, had this estate. His son John, being concerned in the rebellion in 1715, fled from Chester. Since that time it belonged to the Alcocks, of Newcastle. The mansion is strongly built, and of the castellated kind.

Adjoining to the village of HALYSTONE is a very copious spring, called *Our Lady's Well*, in which, as some say,* Paulinus baptized a great multitude of Saxons. Here also was a small benedictine nunnery, founded by one of the Humfranville's, of Harbottle castle. Henry the Third confirmed their charters in 1254. Richard Kellorse, Bishop of Durham, united the church of Corsenside, and Harbottle chapel, to this church and nunnery; and gave the advowson of the vicarage to Lord Richard Humfranville. Its annual revenues at the dissolution, according to Speed, were only 15l. 10s. 8d. though they had been rated in the Lincoln taxation, in 1291, at 40l. The church has been much larger than it is at present. Fragments of the convent still appear in the *Mill House*, and in other buildings in the village.

HARBOTTLE CASTLE, with the franchise of Redesdale, was given in 1075, to Robert de Humfranville, Lord of Tours and Vivan, to be defended by the same sword which the conqueror wore when he entered Northumberland. Before that time it belonged to Mildred, the son of Acman. From the Humfranvilles it was inherited, in 1438, by Walter Talboys, whose descendant, Sir Walter, forfeited it after the battle of Hexham. It was, "as it is saide, the Lord Talbusses inheretance, and geven the prence in exchange, for that it was so meat a house for

* See Lel. It. 7. 62.

for the service, &c."* It belonged to the crown, in 1567: but being granted to a branch of the Widdrington family, their heiress carried it to Sir Thomas Gascoigne, who sold it to the Clennels, its present possessors: their mansion is a modern building, at the east end of the village. In 1173, this fortress was sacked by the Scots;† after which it was rebuilt, and so strongly fortified, that a Scotch army, in 1296, besieged it two days in vain; after the battle of Bannock Burn, however, they succeeded more to their wishes, and again demolished it. It was the retirement of Queen Margaret, of Scotland, on her second marriage to the Earl of Angus, and here was born, in 1518, her daughter Margaret, afterwards married to the Earl of Lenox.‡ It is boldly seated on the southern brink of the Coquet, and its ruins are of large extent. The walls of the great tower have an odd appearance, parts of them being rent asunder from their foundations, and overhanging their base; and other parts having slidden in large masses, halfway down the hill, and fixed themselves deep in the earth.

BIDDLESTON, the seat of Thomas Selby, Esq. is seated at the head of a gradual slope, at the foot of Silverton, a high green mountain, and one of the most southern of the chain of the Cheviots. It belonged to the Vissards, whom Edward the First, on account of their treasonable proceedings, deprived of it, in 1272, and gave to Sir Walter de Selby "pro bono et laudabili servitio."§ His successor, Sir Walter, was governor of Liddle castle, in 1342, in which year the fortress was taken by David, King of Scots, and its governor beheaded. This family was also possessed of the barony and manor of Prenderlaith, on the opposite border.‖ Their seat here is a large and commodious stone edifice, built by its present possessor.

* Sir R. Sad. St. Pap. ii. 15.

† Ridp. Bord. Hist. p. 98. ‡ Knighton int. x. Scrip. Ang. col. 1296.

§ Original Grant at Biddleston.

‖ Charter in Gateshead Vestry, Durham.

EDLINGHAM CASTLE, with several other possessions, was held by John, son of Walden, of the barony of Earl Patrick, for one soar hawk, or sixpence.* It was the seat and manor of Sir Roger de Hastings, Knt. who bore a captain's commission, in the expedition against the Moors, in 1509. In the tenth of Elizabeth, it belonged to Thomas Swinburne, Esq.; but heirs male failing in his descendants, in the reign of Charles the First it went by marriage to the Swinburnes of Capheaton, its present owners. The castle stands near the head of a narrow valley, and chiefly consists of a grey, venerable tower.

BOLTON is a small village, on the north side of the Alne, and having a chapel under Edlingham: but it is only of note on account of an *hospital*, founded at it by Robert de Roos, Baron of Wark, "to support," as his charter sets forth, "a master, three brethren, three chaplains, and thirteen leprous laymen." It was dedicated to "the blessed Mary, and St. Thomas the martyr," and put under the wardenship of the Abbot of Ryval, and the Prior of Kirkham. It was well endowed, and at the dissolution came, with this manor and village, to the Collingwoods of Eslington. The Earl of Surrey was met here by several noblemen and gentlemen, with their retinues, to the number of 24,000 men, before the battle of Hodden Field.†

Eglingham is the name of a parish and a village, and in 1567 was the seat and manor of Luke Ogle, Esq., and at present of his descendant, Ralph Ogle, Esq. It is environed with moors. Near it is a mineral water, described by Mr. Cay, in the Philosophical Transactions;‡ and below it Kim-mere, a lake stored with pike and perch, and its banks abounding with the *myrica*, called sweet *gale*, or Dutch myrtle.

WHITTINGHAM. "In the year 883, Alfred the Great, having slain the two Danish generals, Hinguar and Halden, began to

* Test. de Nev. 385.

† Hol. Chron. ‡ No. 245. p. 363.

to cultivate the wastes of Northumberland. At that time St. Cuthbert, by a vision, revealed to the Abbot Edred, that the bishop, and all the English and Danes, should be commanded to ransom Guthred, the son of Ardecnute, who had been sold to slavery to a widow, at Whittingham, and should make him King of Northumberland; which was done, and he reigned over York, but Egbert beyond the Tyne."* This village was anciently held in sergeancy of the king, by drengage service; it has a fair on the twenty-fourth of August; its church is cruciform, old, and spacious; and the vale in which it stands is extremely rich, well cultivated, and beautiful.

ESLINGTON, a seat of Sir Thomas Henry Liddell, Bart. and occupied by C. W. Bigge, Esq., stands in a low, rich, and sheltered situation, on the margin of the Alne. It is a spacious and elegant edifice, of polished free-stone, and in the modern style. It belonged to Alan de Eslington, in the time of Henry the Third, of whom he held it by certain local services, of the species of sergeancy; from this family it passed to the Hazelrigges, and from them to the Collingwoods, with whom it continued from the sixteenth to the eighteenth century; when Colonel George Liddell, a younger son of Sir Thomas Liddell, of Ravensworth, Bart. bought it of the commissioners for selling estates, forfeited in the rebellion, in 1715, and left it to his nephew, Henry Lord Ravensworth.

CALLALY was the seat of William de Callaly, who held it and Yetlington, by drengage and other services, of Henry the Third: his son Gilbert gave them to Roger Fitz-Roger, Baron of Warkworth and Clavering, from whom they have been handed down to his lineal descendant, John Clavering, Esq. their present possessor. The tower, at the west end of this mansion, has marks of high antiquity; that on the east, and the centre of the building, are modern. The dining room is

* Chron. de Mailros, p. 145. Sim. Dun. col. 147.

† Test. de Nev. 389, 395.

forty-five feet long, and twenty-five feet high, elegantly stuccoed, and has a music gallery at each end. A range of high rough hills, planted up their sides, and brown and craggy at their heads, sweep before the southern front, at the distance of half a mile.

Near Callaly is a conical hill, called CASTLE HILL; its top, comprising about two acres, is girt by a high wall, and, in the weakest places, by a foss seven yards deep, hewn out of the solid rock, and flanked on the outside with a wall. Down the western brow of the hill, about one hundred paces, is another strong wall, its ruins measuring seven yards and a half at their base. The whole fortified area contains nearly six acres, and is difficult of access. There are several other ancient camps in this neighbourhood.

GLANTON PIKE is also a conical exploratory hill, in sight of the curious circular camps, on the tops of *Clinch Hill* and *Ingram Hill*. Near it, at Deer-street, beside Glanton West-field, were found, in 1716, four *kistvaens*, one empty, the other containing each an urn, filled with fine earth, charcoal, and human bones, bearing marks of fire: also near them, two more urns of ordinary pottery. North of Glanton West-field a quarter of a mile, a *celt*, of the old mixed brass, well preserved, was turned up, and given to Mr. Wallis. By the side of the highway, over Hedgley Moor, is a square stone pillar, called PERCY'S CROSS, embossed with the arms of Percy and Lucy, and set up in memory of Sir Ralph Percy, who was slain here by Lord Montacute, in a severe skirmish, in 1463, before the battle of Hexham. His dying words were, "*I have saved the bird in my breast*;" meaning his faith to his party.

The mansion at RODDAM was built by the late Admiral Roddam, on the scite of the old family residence. John Major, who flourished in the beginning of the sixteenth century, mentions* the following curious grant, as much admired by Robert, Duke of Albany, for its brevity:—

"I King

* Hist. Brit. &c. p 265.

" I King Athelstane
Giffis heir to Paulane
Odam and Rodam
Als gud and als fair
Als evir tha myn ware
And yair to Witnen Mald my wyff."

The battle of *Brunanburch*, so much extolled by the historians and poets of that age, is supposed by Camden to have been fought near *Broomridge*, a mile from Ford castle, where are the lines of a large encampment; and this grant may have been made by Athelstane, in consequence of services there performed. The Testa de Nevill, mentions this manor as a member of the barony of the Earl of Dunbar; but is silent respecting the family, though their names occur in the escheats for the year 1264, as possessors of it. They were a warlike family.* Leland calls them "men of fair landes in Northumbrelande, about Tylle river, ontyl one of them having to wife one of the Umfraville daughters, killed a man of name, and thereby lost the principle of DCCC markes by yere: so that at this time Rodam, or otherwise Rudham, of Northumbrelande, is but a man of mene lands."

Near ILDERTON, the manor and seat of Sanderson Ilderton, Esq., and of his ancestors, since the time of Edward the First, is *Rosedon Edge*, on which is a large square entrenchment; and in sight of it, three miles to the east, on *Bewick Hill*, is a semicircular camp, its chord on the west, guarded by an abrupt declivity, overlooking the plains of the Bramish, and its arc by a double foss and vallum; the entrance on the south is by a hollow way, hemmed on one side by large stones, set edgewise in the earth. At *Haerup-burn*, half a mile farther to the east, is a smaller semicircular camp, a kind of out-post to Bewick Hill. Near Three-stone Burn, north of Hedge-hope, one of the highest of the Cheviot mountains, is a *Druidical*

* See Lel. Colect. and Coll. Peerage, VI. 652.

Circle, thirty-eight yards in diameter, and formed by ten large stones: and a few miles south of this place is *Linhope-spout*, a cataract of the Bramish, that falls over fifty-six feet of pointed rocks.

LILBURNE TOWER, "bosomed high in tufted trees," is a grey old ruin, on the north side of a brook of its own name; near it are remains of a chapel. It was the seat of John Lilburne, in 1234, from whose stock sprang John Lilburne, a turbulent enthusiast, in the time of the civil wars. In latter times it belonged to the Clennels; and from them was inherited by Henry Collingwood, Esq, whose mansion, a neat modern building, stands on the south side of the brook, opposite the old tower.*

Patrick, Earl of Dunbar, held the barony of BEANLY or BENGLEYA, consisting of several manors and villages, by the service of his being for them, *Inborg*† and *Haitborg*, between England and Scotland; "that is," says Camden, "if I understand rightly, obliged to secure and protect the communication to and fro, between the two kingdoms. For the Old English call entrance and a porch, in their language, Inbopou."

CHILLINGHAM, anciently called Chevelingham, was held of the barony of William de Vescy, by Robert de Muscamp; and afterwards belonged to the chief of the noble family of Greys, Barons of Wark, from whom it was inherited by the Earl of Tankerville, its present possessor. The castle was rebuilt in Elizabeth's reign; it is a square heavy structure, of four stories in the wings, and three in the centre. Here is a marble chimney-piece, in sawing which, was found a live toad; the

* By the side of the high road, in this parish, was a heap of stones, called the *Apron full of Stones*, and ascribed to the devil. On removing them to mend the road, they were found to cover the base and fragments of a cross; the base circular, twelve feet in diameter, and having four rows of steps.

Gent. Mag. 1769, p. 142.

† The printed copy of the Testa de Nevill, at p. 592, has *Sitingborg*, for *vt Ingborg*.

the nidus in which he lay has been plastered up. The other part, with the same mark, was at Horton castle.* The best pictures here are full length portraits of Lords Bacon, Burleigh, and Buckingham, the last two gaudy, and portraits of Charles the First, and James the Second. The park is extensive, and contains a large herd of deer, and a numerous breed of wild cattle, called the *White Scottish Bison;* "these are of a middle size, have very long legs, and the cows are fine horned: the orbits of the eyes, and the tips of the noses, are black; but the bulls have lost the manes attributed to them by Boethius."† They are very shy, wild, swift, and savage. In severe winters they venture to visit the out-houses in search of food.

HORTON CASTLE stands in a bleak and naked country. It was held of the barony of William Vescy, by William Tuberville, by half a knight's fee; and after that "for many ages was the possession of a branch of the family of Grey, of Chillingham. Sir John Grey, of Horton, going into the war in France, with King Henry the Fifth, took by storm the castle of Tankerville, in Normandy; for which good service he was created Earl of Tankerville, and Knight of the Garter." The two families afterwards became united, and at present are represented by Earl Grey, the owner of this castle.

WOOLER, or, as it is written in the Testa de Nevill, WILLOVE, was a *barony*, consisting of several manors, and given to ROBERT de MUSCAMP, by Henry the First, to be held by the payment of four knight's fees. His successor, Robert, in the time of Henry the Third, was the most powerful baron in the north, but his name expired in three daughters, co-heiresses, who married the Earl of Struthern, Odonel de Ford, and Walter de Huntercombe. Afterwards we find the families of Heuell, Scrope, d'Arcys, and Percys, having possessions here, and from the last of these, the *manor* of Wooler passed to the Greys,

* Gough's Camden, III. 260. † Pennant's North. Tour, III. 110.

Greys, and from them is inherited by the Earl of Tankerville. Here was an *hospital*, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene; and on a round hill, near the town, is an *old tower*, probably the chatteau fort of the Muscamps. The town has a *market* on Thursdays, and *fairs* the tenth of May, and seventeenth of October. It was burnt down about the year 1722, and "arose fairer out of its ashes." At present, however, it is nearly all thatched; and though it begins to flourish, has but a cold uncleanly appearance. Its *church* is said to have formerly been a chapel to Fenton church, a ruin on the east side of the Till: it was thatched till 1765, in which year it was rebuilt. Here also are five or six dissenting meeting-houses.

In this neighbourhood are several remarkable *entrenchments* and *cairns*: one at a place called Cattlewell, is named *Maiden Castle*, and a larger, *Trodden Gazes*. At Humbledon-burn, a mile north-east from Wooler, is *Green Castle*, a large round camp, with a cairn, on a hill, cut in terraces. And on Redrigs, near the Toll-bar, is a *Whinstone Pillar*, pointing out the spot where Henry Lord Percy, and George Earl March, in 1402, defeated 10,000 Scots, under Earl Douglas.

YEVERING is, at this day, an inconsiderable village, on the south side of the river Glen: concerning it, says St. Bede, "Paulinus, coming with King Edwin, and his Queen Ethelburga, to the royal villa, called *Adgefrin*, abode there thirty-six days, employed in catechising and baptizing; in all which time he did nothing, from morning to night, but instruct the people, who flocked to him from all the villages and places, in the doctrine of Christ, and baptize them in the neighbouring river Glen. This villa was deserted by succeeding kings, and another made in its stead, at a place called *Maelmin*.* On the south side of Yevering is a whinstone column, in memory of the

* Ecc. Hist. L. II. c. xiv. *Maelmin* is supposed to have been at MILFIELD, an ill-built village, situated on the north side of Milfeld Plain, where Sir William Bulmer defeated a party of Scots by the Durham forces, before the battle of Flodden.

the battle of "*Geteringe*," fought here in 1414, between the English, under Sir Robert Humfranville and the Lord Warden of the Marches, and a strong party of the Scotch, in which the latter were discomfited.*

Above this village rises YEVERING BELL, a green *bell*-shaped mountain, two thousand perpendicular feet from the plain. Its top is level, and girt with a wall of large whinstones, enclosing an area of above sixteen acres. The entrance is on the south. In the east side of it, a paved way, three paces broad, and thirty yards long, leads to a low circular mount, girt with a slight wall, one hundred and eighty paces in circumference, and with a ditch within; its centre is crowned with a cairn of stones, ten paces high, the middle hollow, and six paces from brim to brim, and the stones beneath it calcined with fire. The sides of this mountain are scattered with circular foundations of small buildings, such as are seen by the margin of the higher parts of the Coquet, and through all the Cheviot district. South of the Bell half a mile, is a cairn called *Tim Tallon's* grave. On Newton *Tor*, a very high hill, are entrenchments and a cairn; and on *Haerlaw*, near Mr. Selby's seat, at PASTON, a camp, girt with a round double rampire and foss.

COPELAND CASTLE was rebuilt, in 1614, by George Wallace, Esq., to whose family it belonged, from Edward the Second's reign, till it was sold in the last century, to the Ogles of Kirkley.† It stands on the north brink of the Glen. One John de Copeland was amongst the twelve English knights, chosen to meet the Scotch commissioners, to settle the certain border disputes, in 1249; and we suspect, that the celebrated Northumberland Esquire, John de Copeland, was of this family. He took David, King of Scots, prisoner, in the battle of Durham, in 1347, for which he was created a knight baneret, and had 500l. a year settled upon himself and heirs.‡

FORD

* Harding, c. 212. † Wallis, II. 480.

‡ Prynne's 4th Inst. p. 245. Leges March, p. 23. Burn and Nich. Hist. of Westm. and Cumberl. Vol. I. p. 36.

FORD was the seat and manor of Odonel de Ford, in 1272, and by him held, with other property of the Muscamp barony, by one knight's service. His heiress married Sir William Heron, whose descendant, Sir William, built the *castle*, in 1287, and obtained a royal grant of a weekly market and an annual fair at this place, and also liberty of free warren in his manors. Their heiress married Thomas Carr, Esq. of Etal, in Queen Elizabeth's reign, and his heiress Sir Francis Blake, from whom it went to the Delavals. In Leland's time it was "meatly strong, but in decay." It was rebuilt by the late Lord Delaval in 1761; and is at present the seat and property of his relict, Lady Delaval.

Robert de Maneriis held *Hothal*, now called ETAL, of the Muscamp barony, in 1272, by half a knight's service. The castle was built in 1340. James the Fourth, before the battle of Flodden Field, took, and ruined it. Sir Thomas Manners, Lord Ros, of Etal, was created Earl of Rutland in 1526. Lord Wharton made this place the residence of the Deputy Warden of the East Marches, in 1552. In Queen Elizabeth's reign it belonged to Sir Robert Carr; and by marriage of the heiress of that family, in 1762, it went to the Earl of Errol; whose sister, Lady Augusta Hay, carried it to the Earl of Glasgow, its present possessor. The mansion is an elegant modern structure, finely placed, at a short distance from the venerable remains of the old castle.

PALLINSBURN is the seat of George Adam Askew, Esq. The country about it is remarkably fertile, and thrown by nature into a thousand hills, of low undulating forms, exquisitely beautiful. Several small vessels of coarse pottery, and a triangular shape, were found on this estate.

In Brankston West-field is a rough upright column of basalt, six feet seven inches high; a memorial of the great victory obtained over James the Fourth by the Earl of Surrey, on the ninth of September, 1513. This battle is sometimes called *the battle of* BRANXTON, from the main scene of action lying near that

that village; but commonly *the battle of* FLODDEN, because the Scots were encamped on Flodden Hill, and from thence drawn out of their entrenchments to fight, by the Earl of Surrey secretly marching through the narrow defiles about Crookham, and cutting off their retreat. Among the slain was the Archbishop of St. Andrew's and two bishops, four abbots, twelve earls, seventeen lords, innumerable knights and gentlemen, and from eight, or, as some say, twelve thousand common men. The English only lost about fifteen hundred: their success was attributed to their artillery and bowmen. King James fell near Branxton, and was next day found by Lord Dacre. On the highest part of Flodden Hill is a natural rock, called *the King's Chair*, whence he had a good view of the two armies and the country. The standards and ordnance were next day carried to Etal. James's corpse was embalmed at Berwick, and brought to England, and buried at Sheene, where, at the dissolution, it was tumbled into a lumber-room. His sword and dagger were given to the Herald's College, where they now are. Surrey deposited the Scotch standards in Durham Cathedral. As Sir Carnaby Haggerston's workmen were digging in Flodden Field, in 1810, they came to a pit filled with human bones, and which seemed of great extent; but, alarmed at the sight, they immediately filled up the excavation, and proceeded no farther. A fine seal, supposed to be Roman, was found here, and was in the possession of the late Countess Cowper.*

The village of WERK stands on the margin of the Tweed, and chiefly consists of a miserable cluster of thatched cottages, occupied by fishermen, most of whom are freeholders. The CASTLE here, so celebrated in the border annals, is completely ruined, nothing remaining of it but fragments of ashlar work, near its foundations, and lines of its moat. It stood on a round hill, apparently artificial. Below it is a beautiful terrace on the brink of the river, called the *Maiden's Walk*. The *Kemb*, or outwork, is an intrenchment half a mile long, consisting

* Hors. Brit. Rom. p. 75.

sisting of a rampart of earth and stone, and a ditch: at its middle and western extremity are small mounts, each cleft at the top with a trench; also another on the river side; and near the first ruins of *St. Giles's Chapel*, some curious grave-stones. *Battle Place* is on the south side of the castle, and opposite it *Gallows Hill*, which is terraced, and a round hill, called *Gallows-hill-know*. The *barony* of Werk was given to the family of Ros, Barons of Helmsley, in Yorkshire, by Henry the First, for the service of two knight's fees,* and was in their possession till 1399; but in the next year was found to belong to Sir Thomas Grey, of Hetlon. It gave title of baron, in 1622, to Sir William Grey, who died in 1674, and was succeeded by his son, Ford Grey, who was created Viscount Glendale and Earl of Tankerville in 1695, which titles expired with him in 1701, and the barony with his brother Ralph, in 1706; but the earldom was again revived in his niece's husband, Charles Bennet, Earl of Ossulton, whose great grandson, Charles, the present Earl of Tankerville, succeeded to his title in 1767.

Though Leland asserts, that "Henry the Second caused the castell of Werk to be made," Richard of Hexham tells us, that *Carrum*, which the English call Werk, was taken by the Scots in 1336; but that two years after, they invested it with a numerous army, and, "*cum balistis et machinis multis*;" but, after three weeks assault, were forced to raise the siege. Soon after they made a similar attempt with no better success; but afterwards returned to the attack, and compelled the famished garrison to capitulate. Henry the Second repaired it; but John, ever inconsistent, burnt it down. Henry the Third and his queen resided here in August and September, 1255, and were met by the King of Scotland and Queen Margaret, their daughter.† Edward the First strengthened the garrison with

* Testa de Nevil, 392. The Magna Britannia confounds this place with Wark, on the North Tyne.

† Rym. Fœd. I. 561.

with 1000 men, on the defection of Robert de Ros, and had his court here at Easter, 1295.* "The Scottes, in 1318, came into England, and destroyed the castells of Wark and Harbottle." In 1341, the garrison sallied out upon the rear of David Bruce's army, as they returned from ravaging Durham, and took 160 horses laden with spoil; a circumstance which brought on a desperate siege, in which the celebrated Countess of Salisbury greatly distinguished herself: Froisart has related this affair with his usual minuteness and gallantry. In 1384 the castle was burnt down, but soon after rebuilt; and in 1419 retaken by the Scots, and its garrison butchered: a deed which the English revenged, by creeping up a sewer from the Tweed into the kitchen, and shedding blood for blood. In 1460, it again fell into the hands of the Scotch, who demolished it. After being repaired by the Earl of Surrey, it was gallantly defended, in 1523, against 4000 Scotch and French, who made breaches in the walls with cannon. The historian, Buchanan, who was present at this siege, describes it thus: "In the innermost area was a tower of great strength and height; this was encircled by two walls, the outer including a large space, into which the inhabitants of the country used to fly with their cattle, corn, and flocks in time of war; the inner of much smaller extent, but fortified more strongly with walls and towers." "As a good pece of its wall was fallen down in 1543, one Archan, an Italyan, was employed to repair it."† The work was commenced on the twelfth of February, and finished on the tenth of November, in the same year, and cost 1864l. 16s. 7d.‡

At *Brigham*, near Wark, was held the great convention for settlement of the tenths for the Holy War, demanded by Henry the Second, in 1188. Hugh, Bishop of Durham, appeared on Henry's part, and was met by William the Second of Scotland, with

* Prynne's 4th Inst. 337.

† Lodge's Illust. of Brit. Hist. I. 50. ‡ Bodlean MS. 6866. 18.

with his bishops and barons, who rejected the demand with the utmost contempt.

LEARMOUTH was formerly a considerable village, as appears by the foundations of small cottages, and a neglected burial ground. It had a market, but at present consists only of one farm-house. In a marl-pit near it, fourteen feet deep, were found large stag's horns, and an oak paddle, such as the South-sea islanders use.

At CARHAM was formerly an abbey of black-canons, subordinate to Kirkham, in Yorkshire. William Wallace, whose encampment gave name to the field adjoining it, burnt it down in 1295. Its abbot, according to the Lincoln Taxation, was allowed thirteen pounds a year. The church stands sweetly among fine trees, on the edge of the Tweed: but the village is small and dirty. The English, under Sir John Lilburne, were severely defeated here in 1370. There was "a little tower of defence here against the Scots," in Leland's time. CARHAM HALL, the seat of Anthony Compton, Esq. is a handsome modern structure, about which great improvements have been made by planting. His estate here was purchased by his grandfather of the Forsters. There is a ruined chapel, with a neglected burial ground, at *Mindrum*.

NORHAMSHIRE

is the name of a district, having the same bounds as the parish of Norham, which, in 1801, contained 3384 inhabitants. NORHAM was anciently called *Ubbanford*. King Egfrid built a *church* at it, and honoured it with the remains of Leolwulf, to whom St. Bede dedicated his Church History: he was the first of our kings who retired from a crown to a monastery. After the second descent of the Danes upon Lindisfarne, St. Cuthbert's body rested here till the time of King Ethelred.

The

The church had three chantries in it: only the middle aisle of it is standing. In some old foundations at its east end, a stone, with curious inscriptions, and the effigies of St. Peter, St. Cuthbert, and King Ceolwulf, its patrons, was discovered. The *castle* stands on a high rock, on the brink of the Tweed. It was built by Bishop Frambard, in 1121; but the Scots, under King David, in 1138, took and destroyed it. Hugh Pudsey soon after rebuilt it, particularly the *great tower*, which is still standing: the crown took it from the see of Durham during part of his prelacy. Kings John and William had four conferences here: one of them respecting a castle at Tweedmouth, which John had twice attempted to build, but which the Lion as often destroyed. Alexander the Second, after investing it forty days with a mighty army, in 1216, was obliged to raise the siege. Edward the First resided here, and held a conference with the nobility and clergy of Scotland; and afterwards called a parliament, in 1291, on Uplington Green, on the opposite side of the Tweed, to settle his claim to Scotland, on the death of Margaret of Norway: after this, John Baliol swore fealty to him in this castle. It was twice besieged by the Scots in Edward the Second's reign, and at length taken; but recovered in 1322. In the night of Edward the Third's coronation it was unsuccessfully assaulted, but forced by storm in the next year. Bishop Fox put it into good repair; but it suffered much in the siege immediately before the battle of Flodden Field. In Henry the Eighth's reign it was again taken; but recovered by Franklin, Archdeacon of Durham.

Bishop Tunstal repaired it in the reign of Queen Mary. Camden had his information respecting it from Dr. George Charlton,* who was born here whilst his father was keeper of the

* He was educated by Bernard Gilpin, whose life he wrote; admitted of St. Edmund's Hall, Oxford, in 1576; one of the four English divines sent to the council of Dort; Bishop of Landaff, in 1618; and Bishop of Chichester, in 1619, where he died in 1628. He wrote also, A Thankful Remembrance of God's Mercy, and A Confutation of Judical Astrology.

castle. "It is fortified," says he, "with a ditch. On the outer wall, which is of great compass, were many little towers in the angle next the river; within is another circular wall, much stronger, in the centre whereof rises a loftier tower: but the established peace of our age long suffered this castle, though on the border, to run to decay." "It is," says Sir Ralph Sadler, "the most convenient place of service for the warden of theste march to lye at, having thereunto annexet all that the holle revennewes pertèyninge, and belonging to the saide castell, withein Elande Shire and Norhume Shire, as they came to the handes of the late Bishoppe of Duresme with the yerely fee of one pounde by the yere." After Bishop Barnes alienated it from his see, Queen Elizabeth granted it, with all the tythes and demesnes, to the Earl of Monmouth, who sold them for 6000l. and the furniture of the castle for 800l. to George Hume, Earl of Dunbar. The Fenwicks of *Lemington*, a seat near Whittingham, sold the castle to Mr. Alder, who demolished the outworks, and then demised it to Sir Francis Blake, Bart. The manor belongs to Sir Carnaby Haggerstone.

Twizell Castle, a seat of Sir Francis Blake, is best viewed from the bridge. It has been near forty years in building, and has no floors laid yet. Though at present it is five stories high, it is intended to be fifteen feet higher, and to be finished with fifteen-feet turrets at the corners. The Till runs in front of it, under a bold rock, which is finely fringed with wood, and adds much to the interest of the castle. This place was held in soccage tenure of the Mitford barons by Alicia de Merley, in 1272: in 1329, it belonged to Sir William Riddell; and was afterwards for several descents in the Selby family, a lady of which, in the sixteenth century, built the bridge here, which is nearly semi-circular, ninety feet and a half in span, and forty-six feet high from the battlement: below it is a fine petrifying fountain; and farther down, the ruins of *Tilmouth Chapel*, where was till lately "a stone boat of as fine a shape as

as a boat of wood. St. Cuthbert is reported to have sailed in it down the Tweed, from Melross to this chapel. It is ten feet long within, three feet and a half in diameter, eighteen inches deep, and four inches and a half thick."* "The vicar of Tillemouth," says Leland, "did write an historie, thus intituled, *Historia Arirea*, wherein is much to be seene of Kinge William Conqueror's cuming yn to England." TILLMOUTH HOUSE is also a seat of Sir Francis Blake. It contains an excellent collection of pictures. It belonged to Jurdan Riddell in 1272; and afterwards to the Claverings, for many generations. Near *Tillmouth Cross* is a square camp, called *Haly Chesters.*

HETON, in Edward the First's reign, belonged to William de Eton; and, in the next reign, to Sir Thomas Grey, captain of Norham Castle. Sir John Grey, of Eyton, in 1420, was graced with the order of St. George, or the Garter;† and from him the estate descended to the present Earl of Tankerville. The *castle* was a strong and beautiful structure, nearly square. At the south-west corner was the *Lion's* court and tower; and on the north side, a vault, in which 100 horse might stand. The great Scotch army, in 1513, besieged it in vain. It is now quite in ruins.

CORNHILL is a small village, with a good inn, and an old seat of the Collingwoods, of Lilburne. In 1549, the Scots took a strong old house, called the Castle of Cornhill. On the brink of the Tweed, a quarter of a mile from the bridge, are traces of a fort, trenched round, and called *Castle Stone-Nick.* In 1751, in pulling down the chapel, was found a stone coffin, about eight feet long, in which were two urns, of coarse pottery, and the shank-bones and scull of a person of great size. In a wood, a little south of Cornhill, is a fine mineral spring, formerly much resorted to; and in the fields beyond it, on each side of the Kelso road, are a series of works, consisting of terraces, conical hills, and basins of water, which are altogether

* Wallis, II. 459. † Heylin's Hist. of St. Geo. p. 365.

so destitute of every thing like military strength, and so finely executed, as to make us believe they have been of an agricultural nature; perhaps the gardens of some peaceful monarch, in an obscure period of the history of our country. Their east end extends to the medicinal spring, which was probably once connected with them. Josephus intimates, that much of the husbandry of the Jews was of this nature. The terraces near Branxton, mentioned by Pennant, are perhaps of a similar kind.

ISLANDSHIRE.

Opposite to the mouth of the brook Lindis, lies LINDISFARNE, called by the Britains, *Inis Medcante*, and by the English, *Holy Island*, from being the residence of several of the fathers of the Saxon church. *Fahren*, in Celtic, means a recess. King Oswald, in 635, made it a bishop's see; and Aiden, a Scotchman, its first prelate. The church was enlarged in 652; but, "more Scottorum," only made of timber, and thatched. Eadberct, who was bishop about ten years, and died in 698, took off the thatch, and covered all the roof and walls with sheets of lead. In 793, the Danes made their first descent here; and their second, in 875, in the episcopacy of Eardulf, the seventeenth, and last of its bishops. Dreading the visits of these pagan barbarians, Eardulf, with Eadred, the abbot of the monastery, and the inhabitants of the island, took up the body of St. Cuthbert, and the most valuable of their relics and sacred utensils, and left it to the fury of the invaders. After wandering about from one hiding-place to another, for the space of seven years, they at last settled at Chester-le-Street, where eight bishops presided, before the final removal of the see to Durham.

"*St. Cuthbert*, who from a poor shepherd became monk of Melros fifteen years, was prior here twelve more, when he retired to the Farne Island; from whence he was called to this see,

see, which he only held two years, and returned to his retirement; where he died, and was buried at the east end of his oratory, where his stone coffin is still shewn. His body was found fresh eleven years after his death."* St. Bede wrote his life, both in prose and verse. His *legend* is long, and uncommonly rich in the marvellous: a very curious manuscript copy of it is in the possession of John Thompson, Esq. of Northumberland Street, Newcastle.

" The monastery here, occasionally mentioned, of Aidan's foundation, was under the government of the bishops. The abbot and monks were the cathedral clergy. The cathedral, and the neighbouring village of Fenham and church of Norham, with other possessions, were given by William de Carilepho, to the monastery of Durham; to which the cell of Benedictine monks, at this place, was then made subordinate: its annual revenues, in 1534, are valued by Dugdale at 48l. 18s. 11d. and by Speed at 60l. 5s. In 1541, they were granted to the Dean and Chapter of Durham, in whose possession they now are."

The church of the monastery is in ruins. Its north and south wall is standing, though much out of perpendicular; great part of the west remains, but the east is fallen. All the arches are circular, except two in the chancel, and one in the north aisle; but these, as well as a pointed arch over the north aisle, built underneath with a semi-circular arch, seem to be more modern than the rest. All the roof, both of the church and chancel, has been arched. The columns of the nave are of four sorts, twelve feet high, and five feet in diameter, massy, and richer than those of Durham; the bases and capitals plain. Over each arch are large windows, in pairs, separated by a short column; and over these are smaller arches. One of the diagonal ribs of the arch, that supported the tower, is still standing, richly wrought with Saxon zigzag; as is also the western door, and several other arches. The length of the body is 138 feet, its breadth

* Gough's Camd. III. 745.

breadth eighteen feet, and, with the two aisles, thirty-six feet; but it may be doubted whether there ever was a transept. Its stones appear red with fire, and, on the south side of the chancel, are eaten by the weather into the semblance of honeycomb. Mr. Selby, to whom it belongs, has lately repaired the weakest parts of the walls. On the south side of it, are the remains of the priory and offices; the inside of their walls, built of whinstone, obtained from the rock, which forms a high natural pier on the south side of the island. West of it is the *parish church*, a plain, but spacious Gothic edifice; its arches, on one side, semi-circular; on the other pointed; the windows long and narrow; and the chancel walls of polished freestone, white washed. East of the ruins is the pedestal of St. Cuthbert's Cross, anciently held in high veneration; and at present called the *Pelting-stone;* marriages are thought unfortunate, when a new-made bride, on attempting, cannot step the length of it. The *entrochi* found here, are called St. Cuthbert's beads; and said to be made by him in the night.

The island is two miles from the main land, and, as in Bede's time, accessible to all kinds of conveyance at low water, though the sands are dangerous to persons not acquainted with them. It is nine miles round, and contains 1,020 acres, nearly half of which is sand banks: on the north-east a spit of land runs out a mile long, and in places not more than sixty yards broad, where the tide may be seen ebbing on the east and flowing on the west: in Camden's time, this part, as it is now, was left to rabbits. The soil is rich; but, before the inclosure of the common, in 1792, only forty acres of it was in tillage, and that subject to intercommonage as soon as the crops were reaped. The rental of the whole island was, in 1790, 320l.; in 1797, 926l. Between the town and the castle there is a small harbour. The *town* is on the west side, and, in 1798, contained 379 persons, most of whom are employed in fishing. It has formerly been much larger, as the names and ruins of several streets testify. The *castle* is mentioned by Camden.

It

It stands upon a lofty whinstone rock, on the south-east corner. In 1544, his majesty expressed his pleasure "with the repayring of the *blocke house* in the Holy Island."* William Reede was captain of this and the Farne Island, in 1559; the monthly expence of the garrisons of which, at that time, was 28l. 4s. 8d.† Parliament garrisoned it as a "place of consequence to the northern parts," in 1646; and, in 1715, one Lancelot Errington, in a romantic manner, seized it for the Pretender. A garrison, from Berwick, is kept in it at present.

The parish of Holy Island is also called ISLANDSHIRE; it contains the chapelries of Kyloe, Lowick, Ancooft, and Tweedmouth; and, in all civil matters, is included in the county of Durham. "At KILEY, primis annis Henrici viii. not far from Norham, in the lordship of the Bishop of Durham, was found, betwixt two stones, bokels of an arming girdle, typpe and barres of the same, of pure gold; a pornel, and crosse, for a sword of gold; bokels and typps of gold, for spurs. D. Ruthall had some of them."‡

HAGGERSTON, is the seat of Sir Carnaby Haggerston, Bart. and of his ancestors, since the time of Edward the First.§ Thomas, who was a colonel in the Northumberland regiment, in the civil wars, was created a baronet in 1643. The mansion house stands in a thick grove: the oldest part is a *tower*, to which two additions have been made, and in which Edward the Second received the homage of Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, for the earldom of Lincoln, in 1311. Hard by are ruins of an old Chapel.

TWEEDMOUTH is a considerable village, on the north side of the Tweed, opposite to Berwick. It has a chapel belonging to the establishment, and a Presbyterian meeting-house. All traces of the castle King John attempted to build here, are obliterated.

* Lodge's Illust. of Brit. Hist. V. I. p. 50.

† Sadler's St. Papers, Vol. I. p. 6.

‡ Lel. VII. 71. § Test. de Nev. p. 58.

terated. In 1275, several monks, bishops, and barons, met a deputation of the Scotch nobility here, respecting certain encroachments complained of by the Bishop of Durham. The hospital, which stood here, gave name to SPITTAL, a village detached from Tweedmouth, but in the same township; the population of which, in 1801, amounted to 3,458 persons. Near the Spittal is a fine mineral spring, of the chalybeate kind.

BERWICK UPON TWEED.

Hector Boethius relates an improbable tale about Donald King of Scotland, being taken prisoner here by the Saxons; and makes this the landing place of the Danes, under Hubba, in 867.* King Edgar gave it, with Coldingham, to the church of Durham; but Bishop Flambard forfeited it: so says Hollingshead; but its name does not occur in Edgar's charters.† In Alexander's reign it had a church, and was one of the *four boroughs* for holding courts of trade, in David's time. With the adjacent country, it was laid in ashes, in 1173; and, in the following year, Earl Duncan rekindled its embers, and butchered its inhabitants. Henry the Second received its castle as part of the pledge for the ransom of King William, and strengthened its fortifications;‡ but Richard the First restored it. King John, and his Rutars, ravaged it horribly, with fire and sword. Edward the First, in 1291, held a convention of the states of England and Scotland here, respecting the claim to the Scottish crown; and, in the following year, in the great hall of the castle, decided in Baliol's favour; but that prince breaking his oath, Berwick became an object of Edward's vengeance, and was most unmercifully sacked. In 1296, the English

* Lib. 10. † Smith's Bede, p. 760.

‡ Bromton, 1089, 1167. In Ymag. Hist. 534. Diceto, 584. M. Paris says Henry obtained it *in perpetuum possidenda*.

English king, says Knighton, fortified it with a wall and a foss, and in the same year received the homage of the scotch nobility here, on the twenty-fourth of August, before an English parliament. The town, in 1297, was taken by Sir William Wallace, through neglect of Cressingham, its governor; but the castle held out, and after a long assault, was relieved by a large army of horse: Wallace about eight years after this was betrayed, and half of his body exposed upon Berwick-bridge. The Countess of Buchan, for crowning Robert Bruce at Scone, was shut up here in a wooden cage, in the shape of a crown, and ordered to be attended by two English women: she lived in it six years, and was then released. Edward the Second and his queen wintered at Berwick* in 1310; and two years after, Robert Bruce made an unfortunate attempt to obtain it by a scalade in the night. The English King assembled his army here before the battle of Bannockburn; and, three days after it, issued a proclamation from hence respecting his *privy seal*, which had been lost in that sanguinary conflict. Peter Spalding betrayed this place into the hands of Robert Bruce in 1318: many attempts were made to recover it, which was not effected till the day after the battle of Halledon-Hill in 1333. Edward the Third was here in 1335; with a great army, in 1340; and the year after, at Easter, held a tournament; but, in his absence in France, in November 1353, the Scots surprized and took the town: the castle, under the renowned Sir John Copeland, held out till Edward, on the 14th of February following, arrived

* Berwick, or Berpic, in Doomsday-book, and in the old language of our country, has nearly the same signification, as grange, granary, and barn, meaning a place for laying up the produce of a farm during winter. *Bere*, to this day is a provincial name of barley, the liquor of which is called *beer*. Ingulphus says, that Berwick is equivalent to *manor*. Some derive it from the Celtic word *aber*, water; others from *Brwicia*, as if it had been a principal town of that kingdom; and others from *bare*, as descriptive of the nakedness of its situation. *Wic* is the same as *Vic-us*, dwelling, town, or village.

with a great army, and forced the Scotch to capitulate. Seven Scotchmen, in 1377, surprised the castle, and held it eight days against 7000 archers and 3000 cavalry. The deputy-governor, under the Earl of Northumberland, betrayed it into the enemy's hands in 1384; but the earl by menaces and bribery soon after recovered it: this high spirited lord, however, through the solicitation of his uncle the Earl of Worcester, engaging in the rebellion against Henry the Fourth, in 1406, employed this, amongst other fortresses, against the king; but a cannon-shot,* the first that was ever fired in England, so alarmed the garrison, that it immediately surrendered. An unsuccessful attempt was made to reduce it in 1422; but, after the battle of Towton, in 1459, it was again in the hands of the Scots, who strengthened its walls at great expence, and held it till 1482, when it again came into possession of the English, in whose hands it has ever since continued. "From that time," says Camden, "the kings of England have continually added works to it, particularly queen Elizabeth, who lately, to the terror of the enemy, and security of the townspeople, contracted the circuit of the walls, drawing within the old ones a very high wall, well built of strong stone, surrounded by a deep ditch, a regular rampart, redoubt, counter-scarps, and covered ways, so that the form and strength of the fortifications are sufficient to discourage all hopes of carrying it by assault, not to mention the bravery of the garrison, and the stores in the place which exceed belief." In 1559 the garrison consisted of only 2000 men, which, according to Lord Treasurer Cecil's opinion, should be increased to 3 or 4000 more; "and,

* Walsingham and Speed relate that his shot was of a large size, and demolished great part of a tower. In the spring of 1811, a ball of cast iron, weighing *ninety-six* pounds, was found in a part of the ruins of the castle, which answers well to Walsingham's account. It had penetrated the castle wall about three yards, at a place where it was flanked with a tower, which of course must have been first penetrated, and of which there are sufficient remains to ascertain this fact.

"and, if it should come to a siege, 10,000 will scantly suffice." Accordingly we find orders for sending 2000 additional men thither in November 1559; and, a month after, for 2000 more*. From the year 1761 to 1770 the walls were almost intirely rebuilt in many parts, particularly the quay-walls and gates, together with the saluting battery: they were completely finished in 1786.† A modern writer on the fortifications says: "Berwick was regularly fortified in the old Spanish and Italian style, in the reign of Queen Mary, and has five demi-rivetted bastions with double retired flanks, casemates, and cavaliers; but the ditch is very shallow, and has never been rivetted, or the counterfort is now ruined and obliterated. The ruins of the ancient Scots fortifications are still observable. But in the present art of war, no fortifications around this place could ever be important, as it is every where closely surrounded by commanding eminences; and hollow ways reach almost up to the walls forming natural approaches."‡

The Governor of Berwick has an annual salary of 586l. 7s. 1d. His house makes the north east side of an imperfect square called the Palace. The barracks measure 217 by 121 feet in the inside; and contain 24 rooms for officers, and 72 rooms adapted to hold 567 privates.

The CHURCH of this town is a peculiar of the dean and chapter of Durham. It stands on the north side of a fine area called the parade. Joan, sister of Edward III. was married here, in 1328, to David, son of King Robert Bruce. In 1641, the corporation procured a brief to collect money for rebuilding it: the work was commenced in 1642 and was finished in 1652, under the direction of Colonel George Fenwick of Brinkburne. It cost 1400l. According to the fashion of the times, in which it was built, it has no steeple. It is ninety feet eight inches long, and

* Sad. St. Pap. i. 389, 601, 638.

† Fuller's Berwick, p. 355.

‡ Edinb. Encyclop.

fifty-two feet six inches broad, and consists of three aisles, and several galleries, all handsomely pewed: the external architecture, though belonging to no definite order, is extremely pleasing and approaches nearly to elegance. The Mercer's Company in London, founded a lectureship here, as at Hexham.

The *Religious Houses* here never made any remarkable figure. David the First, king of Scotland, founded in Berwick, a convent for *Cistertian Nuns;* and Robert the Third, in 1391, granted its revenues to Dryburgh Abbey. The convent of *Carmelites* originated in the munificence of Sir John Grey, in 1270; they officiated in the King's Chapel in the castle. The Scotch king, in 1230, brought hither a convent of *Dominicans*, which Edward the Third removed. The *Trinitarians* are said, by Leland, to have been dissolved by Bishop Beck; but mention occurs of their house, in 1327, as founded "pro ministro et fratribus sanctæ Trinitatis *pontis* Berwici." The *Franciscans* also had a house, here, to which Edward the Third, in 1338, confirmed a grant of twenty marks a year; and, between the sea and the town, in Maudlin-field, stood the hospital and free chapel of *St. Mary Magdalen*, mentioned in the escheats for Northumberland, in 1366: it had a hospital or hermitage belonging to it, at a place called *Segeden*.

Queen Elizabeth founded a *Free-School* here, and placed it under the patronage of the Guild. A charity-school was built in 1725, in which twenty boys and six girls are cloathed and educated. The Corporation also lately erected a spacious building, consisting of offices and five school-rooms: one for mathematics, another for writing, and the rest for reading.

The *Bridge* of Berwick was swept away by a flood in 1199,* concerning which Leland says, "it brake with great force of water, bycause the arches were to low; and after the making of it, as it was then, it durid scars IX yeres." It was re-edified of wood, of which material it consisted till the time of James the

* Hovedon, p. 796.

the First, who commenced the present elegant structure of stone. It has fifteen arches; its whole length being 388 yards, and its breadth seventeen feet. It was twenty-four years, four months, and four days in building, and finished on the twenty-fourth of October, 1634. It was built by Mr. James Bustell and Lancelot Braxton, and cost government the sum of 14,960l. 1s. 6d. The 10,000l. paid to the crown for confirmation of the will of Thomas Sutton, founder of the Charter-House, was also applied towards rebuilding this edifice.

The *Town Hall* was built by Joseph Dodd, architect, in 1754. On its ground floor, on the east side, is a piazza, called the Exchange; and opposite it, are cells for criminals, and shops. The second floor consists of two spacious halls and other apartments. The outer hall measures sixty feet by thirty-one, and is used for holding courts and guilds. The inner hall is 47 feet long and 23 feet broad, and occasionally occupied at assemblies and public entertainments. The upper story is the common gaol of the town. The roof is covered with slate and lead, and the whole edifice elegantly finished by a turret 150 feet high, and containing eight musical bells.

Corporation.—Berwick appears to have been one of the original four Scotch burghs. Its first charter was granted by Edward the First, who required its Mayor to be sworn before his Chancellor, Treasurer, and Barons of the Exchequer of Scotland.* The seal of the corporation is a bear standing upon a tree, with this inscription: Sigillum dmi Henrici dei grā. reg. Angliæ et Franciæ & dmi Hiberniæ de terra sua ultra tuedm. The corporation were first summoned to send members to parliament in the latter end of the reign of Edward the Fourth, from which time, to the first of Edward the Sixth, the returns are all lost, except an imperfect bundle of the thirty-third of Henry the Eighth. The last charter of this town was granted

* Barrow's Reports.

granted by James the First and sanctioned by parliament in the first year of his reign. The present corporation consists of a mayor, recorder, town clerk, and four bailiffs; and also of a coroner, four serjeants at mace, and a water-bailiff. The mayor is also escheator in the borough, clerk of the market, and a justice of the peace; the other justices of the town being the recorder, and such resident burgesses as have sustained the office of mayor. They are lords of the manor of Tweedmouth, where they hold a court-leet and court-baron twice a year. Their revenues, which arise from duties taken at the quay and gates, from ballast-quay dues, and other sources, seldom exceed 7000l. a-year.

The population of this town, in 1801, amounted to 7187. Its charter secures the right of weekly markets on Wednesdays and Saturdays, the latter of which is well supplied. Its fair is on the Friday in Trinity week.

Exclusive of the trade in Salmon, great quantities of corn and eggs are exported here for London. The foreign commerce, even in the best of times, was never extensive, not more than 4145 tons of shipping, having annually delivered cargoes here on an average of four years, ending in 1794. In 1800 the port had belonging to it 61 vessels, equal to 5,399 tons. The harbour, in several places, abounds with low, dangerous rocks: at its mouth, a noble pier is at present constructing on the site of an old one, built by Queen Elizabeth, but long since destroyed.

The most remarkable objects of antiquity this town at present affords, are the extensive ruins of the *Castle*, once a place of high importance, but now almost levelled with the ground; and, about 400 yards north of it, a pentagonal tower, called the *Bell Tower*, having its name from containing a bell, which was rung at the approach of an enemy.

In digging a cellar on Hidehill, in 1770, the clay was found intimately mixed with quicksilver: a piece of it the size of an egg, produced a tea-spoonful. The place where it was found is

much built upon, a circumstance which has prevented farther search.

It may not be amiss to subjoin here the account formerly given of the borderers, who live round about this place, by Æneas Sylvius, afterwards Pope Pius II. who lived in Scotland a private legate about 1448, in his life, written by himself, and published under another's name,* *as they are not at all altered.* 'There is a river,' (the Tweed) 'which, spreading itself from a high mountain, parts the two kingdoms. Æneas having crossed this in a boat, and arriving about sun-set at a large village, went to the house of a peasant, and there supped with the priest of the place, and his host. The table was plentifully spread with large quantities of pulse, poultry, and geese, but neither wine nor bread was to be found there, and all the people of the town, both men and women, flocked about him as to some new sight, and, as we gaze at negroes or Indians, so did they stare at Æneas, asking the priest where he came from, what he came about, and whether he was a Christian. Æneas, understanding the difficulties he must expect on this journey, had taken care to provide himself at a certain monastery with some loaves, and a measure of red wine, at sight of which they were seized with greater astonishment, having never seen wine or white bread. Women with child came up to the table with their husbands, and, after handling the bread and smelling at the wine, begged some of each, so that it was impossible to avoid distributing the whole among them. The supper lasting till the second hour of the night, the priest and host, with all the men and children, made the best of their way off, and left Æneas. They said they were going to a tower a great way off for fear of the Scots, who, when the tide was out, would come over the river and plunder; nor could they, with all his entreaties, by any means be prevailed on to take Æneas with them, nor any of the women, though many of them were young and

* Commentaries of Pius II. published under the name of John Gebellin

and handsome; for they think them in no danger from an enemy, not considering violence offered to women as any harm. Æneas, therefore, remained alone with them with two servants, and a guide, and 100 women, whomade a circle round the fire, and sat the rest of the night without sleeping, dressing hemp and chatting with the interpreter. Night was now far advanced, when a great noise was heard by the barking of dogs, and screaming of the geese, all the women made the best of their way off, the guide getting away with the rest, and there was as much confusion, as if the enemy was at hand. Æneas thought it more prudent to wait the event in his bed-room (which happened to be a stable) apprehending if he went out he might mistake his way, and be robbed by the first he met. And soon after the women came back with the interpreter, and reported there was no danger; for it was a party of friends and not of enemies that were come."*

* Camden.

END OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

A

LIST

OF THE PRINCIPAL

BOOKS, MAPS, AND VIEWS,

THAT HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED IN

Illustration of the Topography and Antiquities of the COUNTY OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

"THE Natural History and Antiquities of Northumberland, and of so much of the county of Durham as lies between the Rivers Tyne and Tweed; commonly called North Bishoprick. In two volumes. By John Wallis, A. M." 4to. London, 1767.

"A View of Northumberland with an excursion to the Abbey of Mailross in Scotland. By William Hutchinson, Anno 1776," 2 Vols. 4to. Newcastle, 1778.

"A Historical and Descriptive View of the county of Northumberland, and the Town and County of Newcastle upon Tyne, with Berwick upon Tweed, &c." Printed and published by Mackensie and Dent, Newcastle, 2 Vols. 8vo. 1*l.* 6*s.* boards. 1811.

"Summa Diligentia assiduaque industria, studio atque labore hi quatuor (omnium terrarum, oppidorum et tenementorum) libri intitulati *Quatuor partes Northumbriæ de novo renovati sunt, ac curia Wardarum maximo robori æditi; per* JOHANNEM LAWSONUM, reginæ ibidem feodarum quarto die Julii anno Salutis nostræ 1584." A manuscript volume bearing the above title, and belonging to the library of the Literary and Philosophical Society, in Newcastle, also contains a MS. transcript of the different records in the TESTA DE NEVILL respecting this county. The *Quatuor Partes &c.* is chiefly extracted from the INQUISITIONES POST MORTEM.

Dr. Nicholson, while he was archdeacon of Carlisle, wrote "*A Description of the ancient Kingdom of Northumberland,*" which was announced, in 1695, as ready for the press; but then remaining in the Dean and Chapter's Library at Carlisle. See Nichol's edition of Fuller's Worthies, vol. II. p. 204.

"*Camden's Britannia,*" by R. Gough, F. A. & R. S. S. besides an excellent summary of all the valuable information that has been published respecting this county in general, contains Mr. Horsley's very accurate survey of the Roman wall, and numerous engravings of ROMAN ANTIQUITIES discovered in its neighbourhood.

"*Bloom's Britannia,*" printed in 1673, contains a list of all the "Nobility and Gentry, which are, or lately were, related unto the county of Northumberland, with their seats and titles by which they are or have been known."

"*Magna Britannia*," 4to. printed in 1724, Vol. III. besides a great variety of other kinds of information, contains an account of all the towns, baronies, and manors, of the county, alphabetically arranged.

In "*Pennant's Northern Tour*" are many notices concerning this county. He visited the Farn Islands, and describes several of the birds that frequent them.

The Rev. George Ritchel, a learned Bohemian, and author of "Contemplationes Metaphysicæ, &c." and "Dissertatio de Cerem. Eccles. Anglic. &c." wrote "*A Catalogue of the several Benefactors to the Churches, Poor, and Free Schools in Tindale Ward*," published in 1713, and republished, with additions, in 1780.

"*The Border History of England and Scotland.* By the Rev. George Ridpath, revised and corrected by his brother the Rev. Philip Ridpath." 4to. London, 1776.

"*Leges Marchiarum*, or *Borderlaws*," containing several original Articles and Treaties between England and Scotland. By Dr. Nicholson, Bishop of Carlisle, 8vo. 1747.

"*An exact History of the Battle of Flodden Field in Verse written about the time of Queen Elizabeth. In which are related many facts not to be found in the English History.* Published from a curious MS. in the library of John Askew, Esq. of Palinsburn, Northumberland; with notes by Robert Lamb, vicar of Norham." 8vo. 1773. In this volume is also contained *The Bataile of Branxton, or Flodden Field; faught in the yeare of our Redeemer* 1513, *&c.* Copied from an edition of *The Mirrour of Magistrates* printed in 1587.

"*The Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border*, by Walter Scott, Esq." 3 vols. 8vo. This work contains several ancient Historical ballads respecting battles and skirmishes that have happened in this county. Much curious information may also be found among the notes to that work, and among those to the, "*The Lay of the Last Minstrel*" and "*Marmion.*"

Several of these songs and ballads may also be found in "*Ritson's Collection of English Songs*," 3 vols. 8vo.

"*The Hermit of Warkworth, a Northumberland Ballad, in three fits or cantos*, London 1772," 4to. written by Dr Percy, late bishop of Dromore. The Northumbrian ballads are also to be found in "*Dr. Percy's Relics of ancient English Poetry*," 3 vols. 8vo.

The State Papers of Sir Ralph Sadler, Thurlow's *State Papers*, "*Lodge's Illustrations of British History*," and Peck's "*Desiderata Curiosa*," afford much useful information on different branches of Northumbrian History.

Besides Mr. Horsley's account of the Roman Wall in his "*Britannia Romana*," there are critical and descriptive accounts of the different Roman barriers in Britain in "Gordon's *Itinerary*;" Stukeley's "*Carausius and Iter Boreale*;" Smith's *Appendix to his edition of Bede's Works*: Reynold's "*Commentary on the Iter of Antoninus*:" Also

"*Vallum*

"*Vallum Romanum*: or *the History and Antiquities of the Roman Wall, commonly called the Pict's Wall*, By JOHN WARBURTON, Esq. Somerset Herald, and F. A. S. 4to. London," 1753. 10*s*. 6*d*. boards. But this work is almost entirely copied from Horsley's. It has a map of the wall, and many engravings.

"*The History of the Roman Wall, &c. describing its ancient state, and its appearance in* 1802. By W. HUTTON, F. A. S." This has a map of the Wall, and plans of the Stations.

In the PHILOSOPHICAL TRANSACTIONS are accounts of Roman Altars and Inscriptions found at *Corbridge*, *Risingham*, *Rochester*, and other places in Northumberland, and an account of the formation of a *Mineral Water at Eglingham*.

In the GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE for 1753, are drawings and an account of two Roman inscriptions found at Risingham, and described by Lionel Charlton. At p. 842, for 1769, is an account of an *ancient cross*, discovered in a heap of stones near Lilburne. And at p. 825, anno 1786, are engravings and descriptions of the two *Roman inscriptions* found at Tynemouth.

The ARCHÆOLOGIA also contain certain miscellaneous notices concerning this county, especially concerning the *Roman silver vessels* found at Capheaton.

The second volume of the Supplement to "Collins's Peerage," contains an excellent account of the *House of Percy*. And in the fourth volume of the Peerage is a list of the persons in this county returned to be made Knights of the intended *Order of the Royal Oak*, with the *annual amount of their incomes*.

"*General View of the Agriculture of the county of Northumberland, with observations on the means of its improvement; drawn up for the consideration of the board of Agriculture and Internal Improvement*, by J. BAILEY and G. CULLEY," 8vo.

MARSHALL'S "*Review of the Agricultural Reports* from the Northern counties of England," 8vo.

"*Botanist's Guide through the Counties of Northumberland and Durham*. By N. J. WINCH, F. L. S. JOHN THORNHILL, RICHARD WAUGH. Vol. I. Newcastle upon Tyne, 1805. Vol. II. Gateshead," 1807.

"Treatise on a *Section of the Strata* commencing near Newcastle upon Tyne, and concluding on the west side of the Mountain of Cross-fell, with remarks on mineral veins in general, and engraved figures of some of the different species of Productions, &c. By WESTGARTH FORSTER. Newcastle upon Tyne," 8vo. 1809.

"Report, &c. *on the present state of Tynemouth* Harbour, with projected improvements; as surveyed by order of the Committee for obtaining a better Navigation. By R. DODD, Engineer," 8vo. 1796.

The Map of Northumberland in "SPEED'S Theatre of Great Britain," contains *a plan of Newcastle*, described by W. Matthew, and a plan of Berwick upon Tweed. Also Arms of Noblemen, and Ro-

man Antiquities from Sir Robert Cotton's collection. It was frequently reprinted, and sold singly.

"*A New Map* of Northumberland, shewing the extent and situation of the several wards and parishes, with their Churches, Chapels, and nature of benefices, Market Towns, Villages, Gentlemen's Seats, Castles, Religious Houses, Houses of Kings, antient Baronies, Mannors, Forrests, Parks, Fields of Battles, Encampments, Collieries, Leadworks, Medicinal Waters, Nature of Soils. Likewise the courses of the several Roman Ways, Present Roads, Rivers, and Rivulets; together with an accurate draught of the Roman Wall, the Garrisons, and Stations thereon with their antient names and newest discovered Inscriptions;" also "350 of the arms of such honourable persons as have born titles of Dukes and Earls ** d since the Norman Conquest." by JOHN WARBURTON. No date.

"*A Map of the Roman Wall*, &c. By G. Smith," 1746.

"*A Map of Northumberland* begun by the late Mr. JOHN HORSLEY F. R. S. continued by the Surveyor that he employed, and dedicated to the Right Honourable Hugh, Earl of Northumberland, by JOHN CAY." The *Index* to it was printed at Edinburgh by Hamilton, Barfleur, and Neill, 8vo. 1753.

"*A Nine Sheet Map* of Northumberland, by Capt. ARMSTRONG, with a Companion to it, Printed by W. Prat, London," 1769. This has been reduced to one Sheet.

"*A Plan of the Collieries on the Rivers Tyne*, and Wear, also Blythe, Bedlington, and Hartley, with the Country 11 miles round Newcastle. By John Gibson," 1788.

"A plan of the Rivers Tyne and Wear from Tynemouth Bar to Bywell, in the county of Northumberland, and from Sunderland to the Junction of Chester Dean, in the county of Durham *with the Lands, Collieries, Waggon Ways, and Staiths*, thereon, including the towns of Newcastle, Shields, Sunderland, and Chester le Street. By W. CASSON, Viewer of Coal Mines, and Land Surveyor," 1801.

"*A Plan of the low part of the river Tyne*, shewing the Rocks, Sands, &c. By JOHN FRYER," 1773. Also "*A Plan of the river Tyne, from the Bar to the head of South Shields.* By JOHN FRYER." 1797.

"*A plan of the Proposed Canal* between Newcastle and Maryport, and of the adjacent country by WILLIAM CHAPMAN, Engineer," 1795, two Sheets. Also "*A Plan of the proposed Navigation*, from Newcastle upon Tyne to Haydon Bridge, by WILLIAM CHAPMAN, Engineer, 1796," on two sheets. These Plans were accompanied by "*A Report on the measures to be attended to in the Survey of a Line of Navigation from Newcastle upon Tyne to the Irish Channel, &c.* 1795——Report on the line *so far as extends from Newcastle to Haydon Bridge*, with observations on the separate advantages of the north and south sides of the River Tyne, 1795.——Second Report *on the line from Haydon Bridge to Maryport*, with observations on lines to Penrith, Sansfield, Ravensbank, Bowness, Wigton, &c. 1795. Third and last Report, confined to the advantages and disadvantages of

of carrying the Navigation on the *South side of the River Tyne*, in the different courses that it is capable of, all by W. CHAPMAN, M. R. I. A. 8vo. 1795." We also find by the same Author "*Observations on Mr. Sutcliffe's Report*;" and a "*Postscript to Mr. Jessop's Report.*"

"A plan," on "one Sheet of the first part of the Canal Navigation, from the East to the West Sea by way of Newcastle and Carlisle. Projected and surveyed by R. DODD, Civil Engineer, with the continuation of the River Navigation into the North Sea, 1795." This Plan was also accompanied with a *Report, &c. With Estimates*, &c. 8vo.

"Report on the proposed line of Navigation between Newcastle and Maryport. By W. JESSOP, Engineer. With abstracts of the Estimates of this line, and also of that from Stella to Hexham. By W. JESSOP and W. CHAPMAN, Engineers," 8vo. 1795.

"Report on the proposed line of Navigation from Stella to Hexham, and from Hexham to Haydon Bridge, on the south side of the River Tyne. By ROBT. WHITWORTH, Engineer." 8vo. 1797

There are also two Reports by JOHN SUTCLIFFE, Engineer: the First on the Line from Stella to Hexham, on the south side of the Tyne; and the second on the line from Hexham to Haydon Bridge, and from Newcastle to Haydon Bridge, on the North side of the River, with Estimates, &c.

"Observations on the most advantageous line of country, through which a canal navigation may be carried, from Newcastle upon Tyne, or North Shields, towards Cumberland, &c. with a proposal to extend Collateral Branches by the Pont and Blythe Rivers to Morpeth, the port of Blyth, &c. and through the middle of Northumberland to Berwick upon Tweed. By JONA. THOMPSON," 8vo. 1795.

A Bill for making and maintaining a Navigable canal, from or nearly from the town of Newcastle upon Tyne, to or nearly to, Haydon Bridge, all in the county of Northumberland. 37 Geo. III. 1797. Printed with blanks. Besides the above there are several other tracts of an inferior kind respecting this subject.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE. "*Chorographia, or a Survey of Newcastle upon Tyne, &c.* Newc. Printed by S. B. 1649. S. P. D. dilectis Burgensibus et probis hominibus Novi Castri super Tynam. W. G." 4to. 34 pages besides title page, and preface. The initials stand for WM. GREY. This tract was reprinted in Harleian Miscel. Vol. III. Ed. 1745, and Vol. XI. Ed. 1810.

"*England's Grievance discovered in relation to the Coal Trade; with the Map of the river of Tyne, and situation of the town and Corporation of Newcastle upon Tyne, by* RALPH GARDINER, of *Chriton* in the county of Northumberland, Gent. London, 1655." 4to. 211 pages, and ornamented with heads of several of the kings and queens of England. Reprinted in 8vo. by D. Akenhead and Sons of Newcastle in 1796, with the map, heads, and other plates.

"*The History of Newcastle upon Tyne: or the ancient and present state of that Town.* By the late HENRY BOURNE, M. A. Curate of

All-Hallows in Newcastle. Newc. Printed by J. White, 1736." fol. 246 pages, with an Appendix. The last paged leaf was reprinted, in 1757; but is found in only a few copies.

"*The History and Antiquities of the Town and County of Newcastle upon Tyne, including an account of the Coal Trade of that Place, and Embellished with Engraved Views of the public Buildings, &c.* By JOHN BRAND, M. A. *Fellow* and *Secretary* of the Society of Antiquaries, London, 2 Vols." 4to. 1789.

"*An Account of Newcastle upon Tyne epitomized,* &c. Newc. 1787." 12mo. 102 pages.

"*The Picture of Newcastle upon Tyne, &c.* Printed by Akenhead and Sons, 1807," 8vo. 186 pages. *A New Work under the same title,* and by the same publishers, appeared in 1812.

"*An Impartial History of the Town and County of Newcastle upon Tyne and its Vicinity.* Newc. 1801." 8vo. 612 pages. This work was written by the Rev. Mr. Bailey, and published by subscription.

Plan of Newcastle "described by WILLIAM MATTHEW" in "Speed's Map of Northumberland." "*A plan of Newcastle* on two Sheets with *views of 26 publick buildings,* by JAMES CORBRIDGE, 1723."

"Bourne's History," contains a one sheet plan of this Town.

A beautiful and correct *Plan of Newcastle and Gateshead,* was made in 1770 by CHARLES HUTTON, mathematician, and engraved by J. Ellis. "Brand's Newcastle" also contains a plan of Newcastle and Gateshead on one sheet, with a fac simile of William Matthew's plan annexed to Speed's Map.

Thrsby's Ducatus Leodensis, p. 497, mentions a *Prospect* of this town by WM. LODGE, who was born in 1649, and died in 1689. *A view of Newcastle Bridge* dedicated to Cuthbert Fenwick, Mayor in 1739, engraved by J. Hilbert, refers to Bourn's History, p. 129. *A Prospect of Newcastle,* from Gateshead Church Steeple by S. BUCK, in 1724. A large oblong *north west view* of Newcastle, By S. and N. Buck in 1745.

A View of St. Nicholas Church in Newcastle upon Tyne, dedicated to Bishop Crew, in 1713. Twenty-two inches by sixteen. *A North view of St. Nicholas Church;* R. Johnson del. G. Nesbit Sculp. fourteen inches by twelve, very finely engraved upon Wood.

"*History of* BERWICK UPON TWEED, *including a short Account of the Villages of Tweedmouth and Spittal, &c. By* JOHN FULLER, M. D. Berwick. Edinburgh, 1799," 8vo. 601 pages, Appendix 50 pages.

There is much curious unpublished information respecting Berwick among the records of the Tower and the Exchequer; in the Bodleian Library; and in the Advocate's Library, in Edinburgh. A large oblong view of Berwick, was published by S. and N. Buck in 1745; and a plan of it in Speed's Map.

The Editor of the account of Northumberland also received much assistance

assistance from *MS. Notes on "Hutchinson's View," by* R. SPEARMAN, Esq. of Eachwick-Hall: and was favoured with communications or the loan of papers and records from the late *W. Heron, Esq.* of Newcastle; from Mr. *John Adamson* and Mr. *John Murray* of the same place; from Mr. *John Chaloner* of Morpeth; from *Dr. Patterson* of Berwick; and from various other Gentlemen, to all of whom his grateful acknowledgements are due.

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TO

THE COUNTY OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

* * * The MARKET TOWNS are printed in Small Capitals; the *Villages* in Italics.

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ERRATA et ADDENDA.

page.	line.	
16	22	*for* rhombords, *read* rhomboids.
17	28	*after* year, *add* and a quarter.
20	25	*for* Elwick, *read* Elswick.
24	30	*after* There, *add* are.
28	24	*for* rise, *read* rises.
84	29	*for* pounds, *read* shillings.
59	14	*for* five Ionic, *read* four Doric.
67	30	*for* concert room, *read* granary, &c.
77	20	*for* anima. *read* anima.
	21	*for* propietur, *read* propitietur.
80	13	read *victrices*
	24	read *civium basilicam.*
93	5	*for* Reynolds, *read* Cosway.
105	24	*for* the Honourable, &c. *to* fitted, *read* Edward Montague, Esq. son of Charles, fifth son of the first Earl of Sandwich, who left his large possessions to his widow, Elizabeth Montague, the able and elegant defender of Shakespeare against the invidious scurrility of Voltaire: she &c. *read* cemetery, *ib.* 32. *read* centuria.
106	21	*for* Carlington, *read* Cartington.
115	3	*for* Thilwall, *read* Thirlwall.
116	3	*for* Thrapwood *read* Threapwood.
119	9	for *Magnum* read *Magna.*
121	11	*for* 208, *read* 258.
	21	for EAVR SEV, read AVR SEVE.
122 & 124		*for* vincialis, *read* vicinalis.
136	3	*for* by, *read* of.
138	33	*dele* the late.
144	29	*for* Dæ, *read* Deæ.
146		OTTERBOURNE CASTLE and estates, after 1715, were purchased by Gabriel Hall, Esq. of Cateleugh, from whose son Reynold, they passed by will, in 1745, to Robert Ellison, of Newcastle, Gentleman, and from him to his son Henry Ellison, Esq. of Whitehaven, in whose life time they were purchased by Mr. James Storey, of North Shields, who built the village; and lastly, after Mr. Storey's death, they were sold under a decree of the court of Chancery: the castle, manor, and demesne lands, to James Ellis, Esq. and the village and part of the lands, to John Davidson, Esq. of Newcastle.
158	19	*for* stations, *read* station.
178	8	*read* Right Honourable Lord Charles Murray, *and after* relict, (l. 11.) *add* Lady Charles Ainsley.
179	24	*dele* le.
180	8	*for* Asia Minor, *read* Turkey in Europe.
193	14	*for* interdice, *read* interdia.
195	29	*for* Vesco, *read* Vescy.
196	15	*for* Sexto, *read* Serlo.
197	36	*after* titles, *add* and that of Earl of Beverly to which he was advanced in 1790.
202	34	*for* there is a light house, *read* there are two light houses, *and after* water, *add* There is also a light house on one of the further islands.
203	7	*for* Chapwell, *read* Chopwell
	8	*for* 1769, *read* 1569.
	10	*for* Huggerston, *read* Haggerston.
204	19	*for* land, *read* sand.
205	3	*for* nemew, (Sax.) *read* nemueth, (Sax.)
207	30	*dele* or, *and add* "
209	8	*for* Joo, *read* Ivo.
210	16	*for* Kellorse, *read* Kellowe.
212	23	*for* Hodden, *read* Flodden.
217	4	*for* two, *read* too.
218	15	*for* Gazes, *read* Gares.
222	2	*for* midde, *read* middle.
	3	*read* and, near the first, ruins of St. Giles's chapel with,
235	29	*for* Charlton, *read* Carlton.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

HAS been noticed by various writers to have a peculiarity in its geographical situation, not possessed by any other county in the kingdom; that of being bounded by four entire shires only, on the four cardinal points, and without being cut or intersected by detached portions of other counties. These bordering counties are, Yorkshire on the North, Lincolnshire on the East, on the South Leicestershire, and Derbyshire on the West: with which latter county it was united under one sheriff, until the 10th year of Elizabeth. Its figure is rather elliptical; its transverse diameter extending from Alkley or Finningley in the north to Stanford upon Soar on the Leicestershire border, being fifty miles; whilst its conjugate or shortest diameter from Tevershall on the Derbyshire border, to Collingham which joins to Lincolnshire, may be estimated at twenty-six, or twenty-seven. Its latitude extends from fifty-two degrees, fifty minutes, to fifty-three degrees, thirty-four minutes north; its circumference is estimated at upwards of one hundred and forty miles; and its superficial content at 480,000 acres. Its

DIVISIONS consist of six hundreds or wapentakes, including nine market towns and one hundred and sixty parishes; in which the villages have been estimated at four hundred and fifty, but this must of course include the smallest hamlets.

NORTH OF TRENT there are now *three wapentakes*, though these at the time of the conqueror's survey were *five* in number. BROXTON has undergone no change since that period. THURGARTON is now *Thurgarton* a *Lee*, or Lythe, the ancient hundred of *Lyda* being joined with it; BASSETLAW contains the ancient hundred of *Oswardebeck*, which now forms the north clay division; and having also the south clay and Hatfield divisions is considered as being equal to three hundreds.

SOUTH OF TRENT there are the three wapentakes of RUSHCLIFF, BINGHAM, or *Binghamshore*, and NEWARK; but these, though nominally equal to one half the county, do not contain quite one third of its superficies.

It has been said that in the usual division of the county, the hundreds of Bassetlaw and Newark are equal to the other four, if the town of Nottingham is left out of the calculation; and we must not omit another mode of division which has long existed, drawn from the nature of the soil; for the western district is called the *Sand*, and the eastern part of the county is designated by the appellation of the *Clay*. The first of these is in general woody or barren; the latter highly fertile both as arable and pasture, and again subdivided into the north and south clays. In the

HISTORY of this county, very little is known of its ancient state, except that it formed a portion of the settlements of the *Coritani*, as the Romans called its aboriginal inhabitants. In common with the rest of the island, it became the prey of the Roman Eagle, and had several colonies of that enterprizing people, as is evident not only from history, but also from various antiquities discovered at different times, and from their roads of which considerable vestiges still remain leading to and from their different stations. After the evacuation of the island by the Roman arms, the invading Saxons adopted a new mode of division, and this county became part of the kingdom of Mercia; and even after the union of the Saxon heptarchy under one monarch, was still governed by the Earls of that name.

At the conquest, the same changes took place here, as in other counties; and its subsequent history is too closely connected with that of the kingdom at large, to require any further elucidation, except in some few points which will be best treated of, under their respective heads. This county contains but few

BRITISH ANTIQUITIES; yet we must not neglect to mention an ancient camp at *Barton* about four miles S. W. of Nottingham, which Aubrey seems to have examined, and which he considers as of British workmanship. It has indeed been called British Hill; but now *Brent's Hill:* and though the fortifications which were on its summit have long been levelled in the dust, yet there are still vestiges enough on its sides to show that it must have been a place capable of an obstinate defence; for there have been originally fifteen earthen banks, each about half a mile in extent, which must have been successively forced before an enemy could even attack the citadel. That it was once a place of importance is also further evinced by the coins which at different times have been found here.

At *Oxton* also there are three large tumuli, the largest of which is fifty-three feet in diameter. This was opened by the late major Rooke, who has much distinguished himself by his research into the antiquities of this county. He found in it an urn made of iron, filled with ashes and burned bones; along with this, there were a large sword in a wooden scabbard, broken into several pieces, two daggers, and fifteen glass beads, blue, yellow, and green: and he considers it as being the tomb of some British warrior. Mr. Rooke also considers those elevations, now called *Robin Hood's* Hills, as having a great resemblance to *tumuli* at a distance, though on a nearer approach they are found too large to have been the production of art. They lie at the back of Newstead Abbey, on the North-western range of the forest, between that and Kirkby, and form a curious kind of amphitheatre at the end of a little valley:

but though they have originally been the work of nature, yet art may have had some hand in producing their regularity of appearance in remote times. On the summit of the highest, there was formerly a seat cut out of the solid rock with a canopy over it, and called *Robin Hood's Chair*, though probably of much higher antiquity: this however was destroyed some years ago, having actually been taken down to form some rock work in the Park at Newstead Abbey.

In the western limits of *Worksop Park*, there are also several mounts which are evidently ancient tumuli; these have now some very old oaks growing out of them, which add much to their air of antiquity. Of

ROMAN ANTIQUITIES—there are still many specimens in various parts of the county. The great camp on Holly hill near Arnold * is supposed to have been the central depot of the Roman forces in this district, as from its great elevation, all the exploratory camps are easily distinguished; at the same time that its vicinity to Nottingham, gives great weight to the opinion of Dr. Gale, that this was the *Causennis* of that military people.

About two miles from Mansfield also, are still to be seen some vestiges of that curious Roman villa, discovered by Mr. Rooke, and which will be more fully described in its proper place. In various parts of the county also, have been found, spears, fibulæ, and keys of brass, and evidently of Roman workmanship; these have more particularly been dug up about Newstead, and between Mansfield and Harlow Wood. Brass *Celts* have also been found, particularly between Hexgrave and

* Rooke's Sketch of Sherwood Forest. We shall remark here, once for all, that the various authorities shall be faithfully given; but that the formality of *marking quotations* will in general be dispensed with, as not only breaking in upon the regular chain of description, but in some measure tending to check that mode of abbreviation which is better done by a general view of the various opinions, than by a distinct quotation from each specific authority.

and Rainworth water; but these are perhaps rather of *British* origin. Into this part of the question, Major Rooke enters very fully. He observes that antiquarians have differed much in opinion with regard to their use; for many of them have a loop on the side, from whence it has been thought they were used by the Romans, as missile weapons; but as on the other hand, many of them have been found in the shape of a chisel, that conjecture seems not well founded. Besides, the edges of most of those that have been found, are notched in such a manner as to prove that they have been used for mechanical purposes; they have also been found in places where the Romans are supposed never to have penetrated;* nay they are found even at the present day in parts of Ireland and of Tartary, where that nation never found a way: the occasional discovery of them therefore, near the best ascertained Roman stations or high roads, does not militate against the conjecture that they were fabricated by the ancient Britons long before the Romans taught them the use of iron, though the Conquerors might in some measure have adopted, and improved them, during their residence here.

The ROMAN ROADS have been pretty numerous through this county.

Near *Willoughby on the Wolds*, the ancient Fosseway enters from Leicestershire, passes on to Newark, crosses the *Ermine street* from London to York, and then enters Lincolnshire. This road may be easily traced for many miles along the *wolds*, and is literally a *fosse*, dug so deep than an army might march along it, even now, without being seen except by those on the very edge of the bank. Several of the roads through the wolds cross it in different places, particularly about *Owthorpe*, and in many parts the remains of the old pitching with stones set on edge may be found by clearing away the grass and weeds.

* The Editor of these sheets saw one discovered in Worcestershire last summer, near Evesham, far from any acknowledged traces of the Romans.

The Forest tracts also contain many vestiges of those military ways, which are invariably in a north-west direction, that seeming to have been their line of march through this district, and these are in many places accompanied by exploratory camps.

One of these roads commences at *Newark*, and goes through part of *Southwell*, in a line between Norwood Park and Kirklington; when it enters the forest, we lose it for a short distance, having evidently been destroyed, nor do we find it again until it shews itself in an elevated ridge near Rainworth water. This had been for many centuries, since the conquest, the old road from Newark to Mansfield, and was anciently called the *Street*; a certain proof of its Roman origin.

To the Southward of *Mansfield* also, particularly near the Hut, are several fragments; which added to the amenity of its situation, and the discovery of the villa, and of several Coins, &c. sufficiently prove its having been a Roman station. There is reason to believe that the

EARLS OF NOTTINGHAM—derived their title, rather from the *Castle*, than from the *County*; with the latter however, their history is so closely connected that we shall give it in this place. Part of it we shall give from an ancient MS.* in the British Museum which brings it down to 1624. and is called

"Catalogue of the Earls of the town of Notingham with a brief historical collection of their loyalty, armes, wifes and deaths.

"WILLIAM PEVERELL a naturall Sonne of William the Conqueror, begotten in Normandy; which William came with his father to this his conquest; who having been brought up in military profession, and one that the Conqueror could confide in, he advanced him to honour, and gave him his new built castle of Nottingham, with severall lordships within this county.

* Harl. MSS. 2041.

ty.* This William with his Notinghamsh: forces was one of the chief Commanders in the third of King Stephen against those *proffitious* Scots, who had invaded England, so farr as North Allerton, in the county of Yorke; where theye received their reward, being totally overthrown: and with king Stephen in the battle of Lincolne, where he was taken prisoner, so that Maud the Empress, had seized on his castle of Notingham, and given it to one William Painell: but it was recovered again by a stratagem. He married Aveline.

"William Peverell his sonne and heire with others contrived which way to take away the life of Ranulphe Earl of Chester, which by poison was done.† After hearing of Henry the 2ds fewry, he fled the Realme, leaving all his castles and lordshipps to the King's disposal. He left a daughter and heire, Margaret, who married about 1141

"William (Earl of Nottingham in her right,) and Earle of Ferrers and Derby, of whose antiquity and family you may see more in the earldome of Derby, *for Robert his father stiled himself Earle junior de Notingham.*‡ This title next came to

"John,

* These amounted to forty-eight tradesmen's houses in the town, and fifty-five manors in the Shire.

† The circumstances connected with this event, strongly mark the ignorant superstition of those times, when the simplest and plainest processes were referred to magic; for the monkish writer who relates the story tells us, that a quarrel having arisen between this *Pererel* and *Ranulph de Mæcenis* Earl of Chester, the former contrived with many others, *by sorcery and witchcraft*, to kill him; which he accordingly effected *by poisoning him*; a mode so certain, as surely not to have required the aid either of sorcery or witchcraft! The perpetrator of this horrible deed, fled first into a monastery of his own foundation at *Lenton*, had his head shorn like a Monk, and appeared to have taken the vows; but he soon found that the power of the Church was not sufficient to protect him against a justly incensed Monarch.

‡ We are told that he was a very pious and devout man, "according to the manners of those times" which may have been *one* of the reasons that induced King Richard Cœur de Lion to take his castle and honours from him, and bestow them on his brother John.

"JOHN, who was sirnamed Sanz-terre, sixt sonne of Henry the Second; which John he made Earle of Moreton (or Martayne) and gave him this castle and honour of Notingham, whom had before a castle seated upon an hill neat to *Merl*, in the county of Wiltsh: (now called Marleburgh) and lastly was King of this realm.* After this it was granted to the ancient family of the Mowbrays; first to

"JOHN MOUBRAY, † 27th of Edward the 3d, who was slaine in the Holy Land by the Turks. anno. XLII of Edw. III. He married Elizabeth daughter and heire of John Lord Segrave who assumed the surname of Segrave, from a lordship in Leicestersh: their son

"JOHN MOWBRAY, created Earle at the coronation of king Richard the Second, and II. of his reign. ‡ He was one that entered Scotland, with his joint forces, and died the sixt of Richard the 2d at London, without issue and was buried there.

"THOMAS MOWBRAY his brother, succeeded, being next heire, and was created Earle of Notingham by Richard the second, the VII of the said King's reigne. Hee with other Barons entered Scotland with an army of Spearmen and Archers; and in the IX of his reign, He constituted the said Thomas Earle Marshall of England, for term of life; whose loyalty and great service for his King and countrey, the French and Spaniards both knew; also he attended king Richard into Ireland, the XVIII of his reigne. He was the first that was ever honoured by charter with the office of Earle Marshall. His first wife was

* On the return of Richard from the Holy Land, John refused to resign it, and kept it in his own hands until he came to the Crown, in which it was merged for some time.

† This Earl is not mentioned in the general lists. His creation, if it really took place, must have been in 1352.

‡ With this special clause that he should hold, *sub honore Comitali*, or as parcel of this Earldom, all his other lands and possessions. He must have entered early on the theatre of public life, as he died under age, and his brother was only seventeen years of age when created Earl in his room.

was Elizabeth daughter and heire to John Lo: Strange of Blackmere; she died XXIII of August VII. of Richard II. without issue. His second wife, viz. Elizabeth one of the daughters of Richard Fitzalan, Earle of Arundelle. And the XXIX of Septem: Anno M. CCCXCVII. he was created Duke of Norfolke; but suddenly after the scales turned by subtile and pernicious counsell, for ambition and striving for wordly honours and promotion is a very miserable thing, short of continuance and hastneth an dangrous end; for in the XXI of Richard II. he had an irrecoverable fall, being banished out of this realm never to return into England. He died at Venice in Septem. the I. of Hen. IV.*

"THOMAS MOWBRAY EARLE MARSHALL OF ENGLAND (his Son)† who meeting with discontented persons, soon laid hold of that oppertunity; for rebellion doth allwaies begin upon revenge, or ambition, and sinister respect. Such was his desperate conspiracy against his lawfull king, for the whiche he had the stroke of the axe at Yorke, anno MCCCCV. He married Constance daughter of John Holland Earle of Huntingdon and Duke of Exeter.

"JOHN MOWBRAY EARLE MARSHALL AND EARLE OF NOTINGHAM (his Son ‡) hee was a most active and faithful subject to king Henry V. in his warrs in France with horse and foot; allso an eminent Commander in his service in Normandy; and I Henry VI. retained by him in those warrs, with one Baneret, IV Knights, one CXIV military men armed a capea pee, and CCC and LX archers. For this his fathfull loyalty he was restored

* Various historians give him but an indifferent character, and accuse him of a series of political infamy, which seems to have been punished even by the men for whom he committed some of his worst deeds.

† He was Earl of Nottingham, but is said not to have been Duke of Norfolk. He was very young, on coming to the title, and was prevailed on to join in the conspiracy of *Scrope* Archbishop of York.

‡ He is by some generally called *brother* to the preceding Earl.

stored and dignified with that princely title of Duke of Norfolke. He dyd the XX of May, VII of Hen. VI bequeath his body to be buryed within the Isle of Axholme: but died not till Oct. XI Henry V. He married Katherine daughter to Ralph Nevile Earle of Westmoreland.

"JOHN LORD MOWBRAY succeeded and enjoyed his father's titles of Honour, and in the XVII of King Henry the VI reign, hee was sent Ambassadour to treat of peace betwixt our King, and the French King, and died MCCCCLXI and buried at Thetford in Norfolke.* He married Eleanor daughter to William Lord Bourchier.

"JOHN LORD MOWBRAY (his Son) was by Henry the VI. the XXIV March created Earle Warrenne and Surrey: a person of good prudence, and put on the belt of military honour, engaging to serve his King in the warres of France, for one whole yeare. He died at *Framington* Castle (query Framlingham) in Norfolke, and was enterred at Thetford anno MCCCCLXXV. He married Elizabeth daughter of John Talbot, first Earle of Shrewsbury of that name, by whom he had Anne sole daughter and heire, but she died without issue.†

"Isabel one of the daughters of Thomas Mowbray Duke of Norfolke by his II wife, married James Lo: Berkley who died at Berkley Castle in Gloucestersh: anno MCCCCLXIII and lyeth buried in Berkley Church; to whom she had issue.

"WILLIAM BERKLEY,‡ who received the order of Knighthood at Calais: he was by King Edw: IV advanced a viscount; and

* He was also Justice Itinerant of the king's forests south of Trent; and according to the piety of those days, made several pilgrimages to Rome, the Holy land &c. and had even vowed to take several more; but in this he was frustrated by the arrest of Death.

† It appears however that this Lady having married Richard Duke of York, second son of Edward the fourth, he was thereby entitled to possess the Earldom. His murder in the Tower at an early age, prevented any issue; nor does he appear in *all* the general lists.

‡ He is sometimes said to have been her grandson.

and by King Richard created EARLE OF NOTINGHAM. But after, adhering to Henry Duke of Buckingham, against King Richard, he fled unto Henry Earle of Richmond, who was after King, and constituted Earle Marshall of England, and after advanced to that princely honour of a Marquesse. He died without issue XIV of Feb: VII Hen. VII. He married three wives; Elizebeth daughter of Reginald West Lord La Warre; Jane daughter of Sir Thomas Strangways Knight; she died 1 Rich 3; Anne daughter of John Fiennes, Lord Dacres of the South, but dyed without issue X Septr: XIII Hen. VII.*

"HENRY FITZROY, a natural Son to King Henry the Eight, begotten on the Lady Talboys, widdow, but daughter of Sir John Blound, Knight; who was by his father the XVIII of June in the XVII yere of his Raign, made Knight of that noble order of the Garter, and the same day advanced unto that honourable title of Earle of Notingham &c; who with the rest of his honours and dignitys dyed without issue the XXIV of July anno MDXXXVI.

"WILLIAM HOWARD, a collateral branche of the Duke of Norfolke was by Queen Mary advanced to a Baron by the title of Lord Howard of Effingham in the hundred of Copthorne in the Com: of Surrey. He married Catherine daughter and coheir to Sir John Broughton of Tuddington in Com: Bedf: Knt. but had no issue male; secondly Margaret daughter of Sir Thomas Gamage, Knt. who had issue male.†

"CHARLES HOWARD, succeeded in the honour, who was (in his

* Having no issue, he was prevailed on by the politic Henry the seventh, to make over his honours and estates to the crown; by which means his brother Maurice, against whom he is said to have been much enraged, for marrying some person below him in station, was completely disinherited. Maurice, however, was enabled to recover some manours which the Crown could not lay hold of, but the earldom of Nottingham was lost to the family, and lay dormant for some years.

† It does not appear however, from other sources that this William Howard ever bore the title of Nottingham.

his father's life time) one of those noble persons, by Queen Elizabeth made choice on for the conducting the Lady Anne of Austria, daughter to Maximilian the Emperor from Zeland into Spain: and XXIV April the XVI of Eliz: he was made one of the most noble order of the Garter, being then Lord Chamberlayne to the Queen.* Hee was made Lord High admirall of England anno MDLXXXVIII; he was constituted Lieutenant General of the Queen's whole fleet at Sea, against the Spaniards Armado; also in the XXXIX of her raigne he was dignified with the title of EARLE OF NOTINGHAM, and at the coronation of King James, he was Lord Great Steward of England and dyed at Hayling in Kent, anno MDCXXIV. He married Katherine daughter to Henry Lord Hunsdon (first wife) and his second, but oldest surviving Son by her.

"CHARLES HOWARD succeeded."——

Thus far says the MSS.—to which we have to add that he married three wives, but had issue only by the last of them, Margaret daughter of James the Scottish Earl of Murray. His eldest son James, died unmarried in his father's life time, and his youngest

Charles Howard succeeded as Earl of Nottingham, but dying without issue, the earldom became extinct, though the barony of Effingham went to the ancestor of the present Earl of that title.

Heneage Finch, baron Finch of Daventry, was created earl of Nottingham in the reign of Charles the second. He was son and heir of Heneage Finch, fourth son of Sir Moyle Finch, the twenty-fifth baronet created by King James. Sir Moyle had married Elizabeth only daughter of Sir Thomas Heneage Knt. Treasurer of the chamber, vice chamberlain of the household, and chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster, in the reign of Elizabeth, also a member of her Privy Council, and who would have

* He was Earl twenty-seven years, and knight of the Garter during a period of fifty-two.

have received higher honours, had not his death prevented it. Sir Moyle Finch was also considered as having further claims upon his sovereign; accordingly soon after his death his Widow was raised by James the first to the peerage, by the title of Viscountess Maidstone; and a short time after, in 1628, Charles the first, gave her the higher dignity of Countess of Winchelsea, in which she was succeeded by her eldest son.

Being highly esteemed for his great knowledge of the laws of England, he was on the restoration of Charles the second, first appointed solicitor General, then attorney General, and soon after, in 1660, a Baronet. In 1673, he rose to the dignity of lord keeper of the Great Seal, was created Baron Finch, and in 1675 earl of Nottingham. He married the daughter of Daniel Harvey Esq. a merchant in London, and had a numerous family. His eldest son

Daniel second Earl of Nottingham of that family succeeded, but shortly after, the earldom of Winchelsea coming to him as heir to his great grandmother, the first Countess, though descended from her fourth Son, the title of Nottingham became merged in the older creation of Winchelsea, and is now enjoyed by the present *Earl of Winchelsea and Nottingham.*

With respect to the

ESTATES AND LANDED PROPERTY—of this county, we know nothing of them before the conquest; soon after which the Saxon landholders seem to have been completely ousted from their lands, which were then parcelled out by the Norman among his followers, in various proportions: to William Peverel he gave no less than one hundred and three lordships; to Roger de Buisly, eighty-six; to Walter D'Eincourt, thirty-four; to Ralph Fitz Hubert ten; to Hugh D'Abrincis earl of Chester, four; to Alan earl of Richmond, seven; to Robert earl of Morteign and Cornwall, six; to William Malet, baron of Eye, two; to Henry Ferrers earl of Derby, three; to Ralph de Limesi, eight; to Hugh de Grentsmesnil, one; to Goisfred de Hanselin, eighteen: to Hugh de Say of Ricard's Castle, six;

to Ralph de Burun, eight; to Tosti Earl of Northumberland, one; to Godiva Countess of Mercia, four, and to Algar Earl of Mercia, one, being all that was left them out of their ancient Saxon possessions in this county.

Besides these we find from Domesday, that there were other landholders in the county; these were the Archbishop of York; Bishop of Lincoln; Bishop of Bayeux; Abbot of Burgh; Roger Pictavensis; Gilbert de Gand; Gilbert de Tison: Ilbert de Laci; Berenger de Todeni; Hugh Fitz Baldric; Osborne Fitz-richard; Robert Fitz-william; and William Hostiarius, or the usher.

To enumerate the various changes of property in succeeding reigns would far exceed our limits; but as great part of the lands of this county, at different periods, came into the hands of the church, we shall here add a list of the

RELIGIOUS FOUNDATIONS.—*Beauvalle*, or Pulchra vallis in Parco de Gresley, a Carthusian Priory, dedicated to the Holy Trinity.

Bingham College.

Blythe Benedictine Priory; to the Blessed Virgin.

——— *Hospital*; to St. John the Evangelist.

Bradesbusk Hospital, in Gonalston Parish; to St. Mary Magdalen.

Broadholm Præmonstratensian Nunnery; to the Virgin Mary.

Clifton College; to the Holy Trinity.

Felley Austin Canons; to the Virgin Mary.

Fiskerton upon Trent, Austin Cell; to the Virgin Mary.

Lenton Cluniac Priory; to the Holy Trinity.

——— *Hospital*; to St. Anthony.

——— *White Friars or Carmelites,*

Marshe Benedictine Cell; to. St Thomas.

Mattersey Gilbertine Priory; to St. Helen.

Newark Hospital; to St. Leonard.

——— *Hospital* belonging to the Knights Templars.

——— *Austin Friars.*

Newark

Newark Observant Friars.
Newstead Austin Canons; to the Virgin Mary.
Nottingham, St. Mary's Cell.
——— *St. Sepulchre's.*
——— *College.*
——— *St. Jones's Hospital;* to St. John the Baptist.
——— *St. Leonard's Hospital.*
——— *Plumtre's Hospital;* to the Annunciation of the Virgin.
——— *Grey Friars.*
——— *White Friars.*
Rodyngton College.
Rufford Cistercian Abbey; to the Virgin Mary.
Shelford Austin Priory; to the Virgin Mary.
Sibthorpe Collegiate Foundation.
Southwell College; to St. Mary.
——— *Hospital;* to St. Mary Magdalene.
Stoke by Newark Hospital; to St. Leonard.
Thurgarton Austin Canons; to St. Peter.
Tuxford College.
Wallingwells Benedictine Nuns; to the Blessed Virgin Mary.
Welbeck Præmonstratensian Abbey; to St. James.
Worksop or Radford Austin Canons; to St. Mary and St. Cuthbert.*

The various grants of the lands belonging to the foundations which took place at the dissolution, will be recorded under the several heads; and with respect to the present occupation and tenure, it is only necessary to say that few estates in the county are above 12,000l. per annum, but the majority are much smaller, so as to produce a numerous and opulent gentry, to whom must be added a most respectable yeomanry occupying their own lands.

Though Nottinghamshire boasts the residences of so many of the highest orders of the nobility, yet it is rather surprising that

* Tanner's Not. Mon.

that, with the exception of the town of Nottingham itself, there are so few others that have afforded titles to resident nobles. The only places in the county which have given titles are, *Mansfield*, an Earldom in the Murray family; *Newark*, a Viscounty in the Meadows, now the Pierrepoint family; and *Lexington* enjoyed by the family of Sutton, but now extinct.*

The Baronetcies in the county have been more numerous; these commenced with Sir Gervase Clifton of Clifton, the 13th Baronet created by King James the first; Sir John Molyneux of Teversal and Wellows; Sir Hardolph Wastneys of Heaton, now extinct; Sir Thomas Williamson of East Markham, extinct; Sir Edward Golding of Colston Basset, extinct; Sir William Willoughby of Willoughby, extinct; Sir Francis Leeke of Newark upon Trent, extinct; Sir Edward Neville of Grove, extinct; Sir Francis Willoughby of Wollaton, now merged in the peerage; Sir Thomas Parkins of Bunney, extinct; Sir George Smith of Nottingham and East Stoke, now Smith Bromley; Sir Samuel Gordon of Newark upon Trent, extinct; Sir Richard Sutton of Norwood Park; Sir Richard Heron of Newark; and Sir John Borlase Warren of Stapleford Hall.

When the order of the Knights of the Royal Oak was in contemplation after the restoration of Charles the Second, the names of the following gentlemen were on the list for that honour; Cecil Cooper of Thurgarton, John Palmer, John Whaley, John Eyre of Mansfield Woodhouse, John Middleton, Esqrs, and Sir John Curson, Knt. ancestor of the present Scarsdale family.

The present state of landed property and of residence, will be fully shewn by the following list of the

SEATS OF THE NOBILITY AND GENTRY.

Bunney, Lord Rancliffe.

Clumber Park, Duke of Newcastle.

Costock

* Langar in the S. E. part of the county does not come exactly within this description; the title in the patent is Viscount *Howe*, of Langar.

Costock, Lord Rancliffe.
Holme Pierpoint, Earl Manvers.
Langar, Baroness Howe.
Newstead Abbey, Lord Byron.
Serlby Hall, Viscount Galway.*
Thoresby Park, Earl Manvers.
Welbeck Abbey, Duke of Portland.
Wollaton Hall, Lord Middleton.
Worksop Manor, Duke of Norfolk.
Carlton Hall, Sir William Earl Welby, Bart.
Clifton Grove, Sir Gervas Clifton, Bart.
East Stoke near Newark, Sir George Smith Bromley, Bart.
Mansfield Woodhouse, Sir William Boothby, Bart.
Norwood Park, near Southwell, Sir Richard Sutton, Bart.
Stapleford Hall, Right Hon. Sir J. B. Warren, K. B. Bart.
Wellow, near *Ollerton,* Sir Francis Molyneux, Bart.
Annesley Hall, John Musters Chaworth, Esq.
Annesley, William Chaworth, Esq.
Apsley, E. Willoughby, Esq.
Babworth, Hon. J. Bridgeman Simpson.
————, Rev. Archdeacon Eyre.
Beesthorp Hall, Thomas Bristow, Esq.
Berry Hill, near Mansfield, T. Walker, Esq.
Blythe Hall, a seat of the Mellish family.
Blythe, near to, seat of Joshua Walker, Esq.
Bramcote House, John Longden, Esq.
Brook Hill, near Mansfield, Rev. D'Ewes Coke.
Broughton Upper, seat near to, F. Morris, Esq.
Carlton, near Worksop, R. Ramsden, Esq.
Chilwell, William Charlton, Esq.
Cockglade, near Carburton, Dr. Aldrich.
Coddington, near Newark, S. C. Colclough, Esq.
Colston Basset, seat near to, Samuel Wright, Esq.

* There is a very handsome seat of lady Galway, close to the town of Bawtry, and which we believe is within the limits of this county.

Colwick Hall, John Musters, Esq.
———, near to, seat of General Lister.
Cromwell, Joseph Pocklington, Esq.
Edwinstow, Hon. R. L. Saville.
————, near to, seat of Dr. Oakes.
————, near to, seat of Boothby, Esq.
————, near to, seat of Mills, Esq.
Forest Lodge, near Papplewick, J. Cope, Esq.
Flintham Hall, Col. Thoroton.
Gedling House, William Elliot Elliott, Esq.
Grove, Anthony Hardolph Eyre, Esq. M. P.
Hurgarton Hall, G. D. L. Gregory, Esq.
Kelham House, John Manners Sutton, Esq.
Kirklington Hall, near Southwell, Mrs. Whetham
Langford House, near Newark, Chaplin, Esq.
Langold, near Worksop, J. G. Knight, Esq.
Lenton Grove, Francis Evans, Esq.
Lenton Priory, William Stretton, Esq.
Mapperley, Ichabod Wright, Esq.
Muskham House, Joseph Pocklington, Esq.
Muskham South, near to, seat of W. D. Rastell, Esq.
Nettleworth, near Mansfield, Edward Greaves, Esq.
Norwood Park, Thomas Wright, Esq.*
Nuttall Temple, Hon. Henry Sedley.
Osberton, near Retford, Francis Ferrard Foljambe, Esq.
Ossington Hall, near Tuxford, John Denison, Esq. M. P.
Owthorpe, Miss Renshaw.
Plumtree, William Hallam, Esq.
Papplewick, Right Hon. Frederic Montague.
Parkhall near Mansfield, R. Burdon, Esq.†
Ranby Hall, Hugh Blaydes, Esq.
Ratcliffe Lodge, Thomas Boulton, Esq.
Redhill, John Chamberlain, Esq.

Rempston,

* He is we believe only the occupant.
† Col. Hall is, or was, the occupant of this seat.

Rempston, seat near to, J. Goodere, Esq.
———, seat near to, W. Gregory Williams, Esq.
Ruddington, William Ford Rawson, Esq.
Rufford Abbey, Hon. and Revd. J. Lumley Saville.
Scofton near Babworth, R. Sutton, Esq.
Sherwood Hall, near Mansfield, Col. Kellet.
Sherwood Lodge, Henry Cooper, Esq.
Shirewood Hall, John Need, Esq.
Shire Oak, near to Gateford, J. Hewett, Esq.
Skegby, seat near to, Thomas Lindley, Esq.
Staunton Hall, Rev. J. Staunton, D. D.
Stanford Hill, Charles Vere Dashwood, Esq.
Strelley, Thomas Webbe, Esq.
Syerston, George Fillingham, Esq.
Thorney, George Neville, Esq.
Thrumpton, J. W. Emmerton, Esq.
Thurgarton, John Brettle, Esq.
Tollerton Hall, Pendock Neale Barry, Esq.
Valleyfield near Sneinton, Charles Mellor, Esq.
Walling Wells, William White, Esq.
Watnall, near to, seat of ——— Rolleston, Esq.
Whighay near Annesley, W. Chaworth, Esq.
Wigthorpe near Carlton N. W.—R. Kentish, Esq.
Wilford House, John Smith Wright, Esq.
Winckbourne near Southwell. P. Pegge Burnell, Esq.
Winthorpe Hall near Muskham. R. Pocklington, Esq.
Wiseton Hall, Jonathan Aclom, Esq.
Wiverton Hall, near Bingham.

Having thus taken a general view of the past and present state of Landed Property, it remains for us to glance slightly at the present state of the County in other respects, and shall therefore begin with its

CLIMATE.—which is by all writers, even of the earliest date, considered as much drier than that of most of the other neighbouring

bouring counties, or indeed than the kingdom in general. By a comparison of different years, and different places, this opinion has met with a considerable degree of confirmation sufficient to establish it as a general meteorological fact. In the year 1794, the quantity of rain which fell at West Bridgeford was only twenty six inches and a quarter; in 1795, it was twenty four and three quarters; and in 1796, only eighteen inches.*

Mr. Lowe, in his agricultural survey, has accounted for this upon very rational grounds, conceiving that although the greatest rains come with the Easterly winds, from the German ocean, yet the surcharged clouds being attracted powerfully by the mountains of Derbyshire, pass over this county too quickly to deposit much of their moisture, whilst on the other hand the clouds from the western ocean and Irish channel are attracted and broken by the Derbyshire and Yorkshire mountains, before they arrive at this level district.

This general dryness is considered as favourable to the temperature of the County, so as to bring it nearly upon a par with respect to seed time and harvest, with the more southern counties. The

Soil and Surface.—Of Nottinghamshire are considered by Thoroton as "generally of the most fertile in England (except a part of the forest of Sherwood which was the most pleasant, but by the abominable destruction of woods is now much otherwise) and likewise some of that which borders upon Derbyshire, part whereof affords most excellent coals." The fact is, that this is not properly a *level*, but a *champaign* country, having a general inequality of surface, seldom rising to the altitude of a hill, but sufficiently broken to avoid the sameness resulting from a dead flat, and also presenting a considerable variety of surface which the attentive agriculturist will know how to appreciate.

The

* It is remarkable, however, that the corresponding quantities in the metropolis were only 23¼, and 18 inches in 1794—95, whilst in Lancashire it amounted to sixty-nine inches and a half!

The general division of the soil is now into *sand or gravel; clay; limestone and coal land:* and the first of these has again been subdivided into the *forest country and borders* extending about thirty miles in length, and from seven to ten in breadth; the *Trent bank district*; and the *tongue of land beyond, or east of Trent,* running into Lincolnshire.

The Trent bank district accompanies the river through its whole course in the county, as far as Sutton upon Trent, and is in some places not more than a mile in breadth, and never more than five: it is in general a mellow vegetable mould on a bottom of sand or gravel, which sometimes shew themselves on the surface. The south-western district also on the banks of the Soar is included in this.

The district east of Trent, is generally a poor land, and being subject to floods, is much incommoded by low moors, which it is to be hoped the present system of improvement by draining will soon remove.

The *clay district* is again divided into the *north* and *south clays.* The first of these is extremely fertile, much more so indeed than its name would seem to imply, arising from a considerable mixture of sand that renders it more friable and of course more easily susceptible of agricultural labour than cold clay lands in general. In the more northern part it is agreeably diversified with hill and dale, whilst its bold promontories rising abruptly from the dead level of *Misson Car,* and its continuation into Lincolnshire appear evidently to have been at some very remote period the boundaries to an ocean which must once have flowed over what is now a scene of rich cultivation. It is impossible for any person to contemplate the view from *Gringley on the Hill* without drawing this conclusion, and it appears even more evident when these hills are viewed from below, particularly on the road from *Bawtry* towards *Retford,* when they have all the semblance of Islands rising from the bosom of the ocean; their abrupt cliffs being to the northward,

whilst on the other side they sink gradually into the general line of the county.

The *south clay* district is by no means so extensive as the north; it includes the *Vale of Belvoir*, which presents a scene of cultivation perhaps equal to any other in the kingdom; also the *woulds*, which are a range of high bleak hills, in many parts uninclosed, but now in a state of progressive improvement, particularly by planting, for which they seem well calculated.

The *lime and coal districts* lie on the very western verge of the county, beginning about *Shire Oaks*, and extending to the southward as far as the Trent. The coal begins near Mansfield: and it is a curious fact that the limestone is precisely bounded by the river Lene, to the eastward of which it is not to be found. The

PRODUCE of this county is fully equal in quantity to the regular proportion that might be expected, but we have not been able to procure any thing like an estimate either of its annual quantity or value. In such a diversity of soil, the agriculturist has an opportunity of cultivating every species of grain, nor do his cares go unrewarded; but we have not been able to ascertain any leading facts not generally known. There is however *one* species of grain whose culture Mr. Lowe in his survey believes to be peculiar to this county. These are called *Skegs*, and yield a crop double in quantity to any other species of oats, but only equal in weight. The great advantage resulting from their cultivation is, that they will grow where nothing else will; and as they yield a sweet nourishing food, the farmers, though they seldom bring them to market, raise them in considerable quantities, particularly in the north-western part of the county, for their own use, giving them to their horses, in the straw. In the agricultural survey, they are stated to be the 'Avena stipiformis' of Linnæus, and defined scientifically as "pannicled, calyxes two-flowered, awns twice as long as the seed, culm branchy, stipe form." That they might be introduced

troduced with success into other places, is evident from the fact, that here they are sown on the worst land; sometimes on a lea, sometimes after turnips, often taken as a last crop. Their produce on bad land amounts in general to about four quarters per acre, equal in value to about two thirds the same quantity of oats; nor are they unprofitable on good land, as they have been known to produce fourteen or fifteen quarters; but their great advantage is that they will produce a considerable quantity of sweet nutritious green food for horses, and tha they will do this on the worst land where nothing else will grow. *

Hops are an article of considerable cultivation in the central part of the county about Ollerton, and indeed in most parts of the *north clay*. Their cultivation is not however considered as an increasing one; for though they are much stronger than the Kentish hops, in a proportion of nearly two to one, yet their flavour is by no means so mild and agreeable, which of course operates against them in the market.

It is thought that this county is favourably situated for the cultivation of *orchards*, as much of the soil is a red marly loam with blue veins, similar to the orchard districts of Worcestershire and Herefordshire. There are indeed in the north clay many orchards both of apples and pears, but not in sufficient quantities to render the making of cyder or perry an object of agricultural attention; particularly as the ready sale at Mansfield market to the dealers who supply the whole mountainous district of Derbyshire, is sufficient to carry off any quantity of the fruit that may be raised.

Weld, sometimes called the dyer's weed, is an article of partial cultivation about Scrooby, and other places in the northern district, and has this advantage that it does not occupy much ground, being sown with other crops, either barley or clover. In a favourable season, it has been known to yield half a ton

* More on this subject may be seen in Lowe's survey of the county.

per acre; but its price is too variable for the farmer to depend much upon its culture, being sometimes as low as 6*l.* and at others rising to 24*l.* per ton.

It may be observed with propriety, that notwithstanding all that has been said in favour of *large farms*, yet the system of occupation in this county, is a proof that they are far from being absolutely necessary, at least beyond a certain extent. It may be true indeed, that if very large farms had never existed, many of our present improvements would never have been thought of; but even granting this, it is still pleasant to see a whole county, populous in proportion to the extent and nature of its soil, in a high state of cultivation, intersected by good roads, and inhabited by a respectable yeomanry and leasehold farmers, well lodged and comfortably situated; and all this, where very few farms exceed 300*l.* per annum; where more farms are below than above 100*l.*; and many, in the clay district, as low as twenty. By this equal division, it is easy to conceive how many families are living in honest respectability; and though they may be considered as in a state of poverty on the smallest farms, yet it is not a state of poverty which will send their occupants to the workhouse for relief, as would infallibly have been the case had twenty or thirty of these little spots been consolidated into one, and their hapless tenants obliged to perform as servile drudgery, as that which now forms the cheerful labour of themselves and families, and is a powerful stimulus to their industry.

A liberal spirit of improvement too seems to pervade all classes, each in proportion to his means, trying and adopting the modern discoveries of other districts; and the beneficial effects of this spirit, which has been much aided both by the precept and example of many of the resident gentry, is evident over the whole face of the county. Much of this state of improvement, resulting from a more equal diffusion of occupancy may be supposed to proceed from the

Tenures—which of course are in all the variety of freehold, copyhold, and leasehold, and there is also a considerable quantity of church and collegiate lands; the church of Southwell, and the archbishopric of York, being still, as formerly, considerable landholders, whilst some of the ancient priory lands are now in possession of the universities.

The freeholds, indeed, are more extensive than numerous; and with respect to the copyholds, a great proportion of the smallest ones are "Borough English," and descend to the youngest son.*

The immediate occupants of the soil, however, are mostly tenants at will, and as their farms in many instances have thus gone through several generations, they feel a kind of hereditary security that prompts them to the same course of improvement as if they were secured by leases.

The *Rents* indeed, according to the modern system, have been in many instances raised in a most extraordinary proportion, even on the leasehold lands, though perhaps not far beyond the limits of strict propriety; we have heard, however, of some instances, particularly on the banks of Trent where they have been raised in a proportion of three to one! and that under circumstances which left the farmer no choice between acceptance and dismission. If, with such an extraordinary rise, the farmer is still able to live and pay his rent, it is indeed evident that the landholder might have doubled his rents without any injury to the farmer, and with a just regard to his own rights; but we cannot help fearing that a rise to such an extent must be immediately detrimental to the occupant, and ultimately so to the landholder, unless it produces a more spirited mode of culture, and perhaps brings a considerable part of the land under the plough, that would otherwise have lain in a comparatively

* The origin of this part of our common law is completely involved in mystery, but is supposed to have arisen from the ancient system of vassalage, which gave the *lord* certain rights over his *vassal's bride*, thus rendering the legitimacy of the *eldest* born uncertain.

paratively idle state. Should *that* prove to be the case, then indeed the public at large must benefit from it, and the extraordinary rise need no longer be considered as an evil; but this can only be determined by the result of the experiment.

In this county, also, the farmer we understand has many advantages in the article of *tythes*; for most of the lands, originally church lands, are tythe free; whilst in other parts of the county, compositions are generally made, and that at a much lower rate, than a surveyor would be apt to value them at.

Before we dismiss this part of the subject it will not be irrelevant to notice two curious agricultural facts, in some measure peculiar to this county. Mr. Lowe in his survey tells us that in the *forest district*, the land being of a convertible nature, very little *now* remains permanently in grass, except in the bottoms near rivers or brooks for meadow, and homesteads about farm houses for convenience; but formerly there was always about each forest village a small quantity of inclosed land in tillage or pasture, the rest lay open, common to the sheep and cattle of the inhabitants, *and the King's deer.*

With respect to *forest breaks*, he observes, that it has been an immemorial custom for the inhabitants of townships to take up breaks, or temporary inclosures of more or less extent, perhaps from forty to two hundred and fifty acres, and keep them in tillage for five or six years. For this the permission of the Lord of the manor, however, is necessary, and two verdurers must inspect, who report to the Lord Chief Justice in Eyre, that it is not to the prejudice of the king or subject; and they are at the same time to see *that the fences are not such as to exclude the Deer.* The

MINERALOGY of Nottinghamshire, has nothing particularly worthy of attention. We have already mentioned the article of *coals* in the western part of the county; these are becoming very valuable to their proprietors from the increased sale arising from the facilities of water carriage, and as they

are

are now both cheap and plentiful, the encouragement to lime-burning will naturally increase to the manifest improvement of agriculture. The county is not deficient in *stone* of various kinds. Very extensive quarries of a reddish stone, in immense blocks, are now in full work near Mansfield, and there is a quarry near Mansfield Woodhouse now worked for the purposes of burning as lime, but which is so extremely beautiful, of a light cream colour close in the grain, and extremely hard, that it would be highly valuable for ornamental building, were it not that its extreme hardness would raise its price far beyond that of Portland stone.

A good bluish stone, fit for building purposes, has been for a long time, dug up at Maplebeck; Newark bridge is built of it, and it appears to improve from exposure to the weather. But there is no county in the kingdom which produces such a quantity, and at the same time such a variety of *gypsum, alabaster*, or *plaster* as it is commonly called here. The pits at Gotham, Beacon hill, &c. will be spoken of under their proper heads.

Marle, it is supposed, might be found in considerable quantities for agricultural purposes, if that mode of dressing land was once introduced; such veins of it as have been opened by chance, are found to be highly calcareous, and might, under judicious management, be rendered highly beneficial. There is no county in England, of a champaign surface, which is watered with a greater variety of

Rivers, affording it all the advantages of navigation for commercial, and of irrigation for agricultural purposes. The principal of these is the

Trent; respecting the origin of whose name, a variety of conjectures have been started. Its present name is known, or *supposed*, not to be older than the Saxon times, and antiquaries have been much puzzled at its not being mentioned by name by any of the Roman writers; in fact neither by Ptolemy, Strabo,

Strabo, nor even in the Itinerary. A fanciful idea had indeed originated from the brain of some monk, of its receiving thirty tributary streams, being therefore called *Triginta*, and that being changed into *Trente* in the Norman French; but this is too flimsy even to require refutation. That a river of such magnitude, should not have received a name from the Romans is incredible; and it may naturally be supposed, whatever that name was, that some remains of it should be in the present appellation. The happiest *guess* of this kind may be seen in the thirtieth volume of the Gentleman's Magazine, page 65, where a very ingenious writer observes, that we find in a note of the Grammarian *Servius* upon *Virgil*, that the Tiber in one part of the city of Rome had the name of "Terentum" in consequence of its wearing its banks from the rapidity of its course—"eo quod ripas terat."—Now supposing this to be true, and that the Romans might probably enough have given the name of their favourite river, (as our modern discoverers have done in several instances) to this one, whose beauty they could not fail to be struck with, for it is not likely they would have left it without a name, then the etymology of its present appellation would be simple and unforced.

Another idea has also been started on the ground of looking for its etymology in the ancient Roman name, for there is another word in the Latin language, which is as good a word for conjecture, and comes even nearer to it in sound; this is *Tridentum*, or *Tridenta*, from which Trent, or *Treont* as in the Saxon, might easily be deduced.

These indeed are only conjectures; but its real Roman name, which however has no similarity whatever with its present appellation, may perhaps be traced by the consideration, that although it had been the general supposition of antiquaries that the Roman name of the *Humber* was *Abus*, yet Doctor Gale seems to have been rather fortunate in his conjecture, that its real name was *Urus*, of which there are still some vestiges in the names of *Isurium*, and *Eburacum* the modern York: the question

question then naturally arises, to what river did they give the name of *Abus?* why to the *Trent*, says our etymologist, and even of this there is a vestige in Appisthorpe, or Abusthorpe, the town on the Abus near Littleborough, the *Ageloum* of the Romans.

This is certainly a conjecture which, on a minute investigation, may appear to be well founded; and is at least well deserving the notice of antiquaries.

The river itself has been considered of high importance as early as the Conquest; for it is recorded in Domesday-book, that "in Snotingham, the *water of Trent* and the fosse and the way towards York, were kept so, that if any should hinder the *passage of boats*, and if any should plow or make a ditch on the King's way, within two perches, he should make amends by Eight pounds."

It ranks as the fourth capital river in England, being only surpassed by the Thames, Severn, and Humber: and though most certainly not the *largest*, yet it may be said to run the *longest* course of any, from its rising nearer to the west side of the kingdom than any of the others.

It rises near Biddulph in the Moorlands of Staffordshire, receiving from Cheshire and Lancashire, even whilst near its head, a number of small rivulets, which have been said to amount to *Thirty* and thence its name; but this is futile, for the Saxon name of Treonta was given, long before the introduction of the Norman French into this country. It soon becomes a pretty large river, coming down from the hills with a very rapid current, and being augmented in the flat country by the accession of other rivers, it flows past Trentham to which it gives a name, and from thence Burton in Derbyshire, when it first becomes navigable. It soon after enters Nottinghamshire near Radcliffe-upon-Soar in a clear stream, and bold rapid current; thence flowing past the groves of Clifton, it winds round the town of Nottingham, giving fertility to an immense range of meadows, bounded by villas, villages, and comfortable farms, in some places

places sweeping over fertile plains, in others reflecting on its glossy surface, high swelling knolls, and green feathered cliffs that add to the sublimity of the scene. Its scenery round Holme Pierpoint and Radcliffe is pleasing in the extreme; it then proceeds with rather a tortuous course through a highly cultivated country towards Newark, where it suddenly takes a bend toward the North, and pursues that route as far as Clifton, upon-Trent, where it becomes the boundary between Nottingham and Lincolnshire, and passes Gainsborough, but does not leave that county until it reaches Heck Dyke, from whence it proceeds, after a course of near two hundred miles, to the Humber.

At Gainsborough, about eight miles before its leaving the county, it loses the influence of the tide which flows up so far, and is no longer navigable for vessels of any great burthen; but vessels of a flatter construction are constantly occupied in it as high up as Burton. Its navigation is indeed of such importance to the country at large, in consequence of the numerous communications which it forms with other rivers and canals, that every means have been taken to afford it all the facilities possible. For this purpose it has a side cut of ten miles in length, in order to avoid twenty-one shoals which occur in little more than thirteen miles of its course between Trent bridge at the commencement of the Nottingham canal, and Sawley Ferry at the commencement of the Trent and Mersey canal. This side cut, which is sometimes called the *Trent Canal*, has a rise of twenty-eight feet; and it not only crosses and is connected with the Erwash canal near Sawley, but has also a short cut and lock into the Trent at Beeston.

The *Erwash* is but little connected with the county, merely forming the boundary on the south-west for about ten or twelve miles between Nottingham and Derbyshires, and falls into the Trent near Thrumpton.

The *Soar* is more to the southward, constituting a partial boundary between this county and Leicestershire, but has nothing particularly worthy of notice.

Besides

Besides these, there are some smaller streams which have been accurately delineated by a native antiquary;* who tells us that on the forest side of the county there are five fine streams which cross from west to east, almost parallel to each other, and afterwards turn to the north and form the *River Idle.*

The first of these is *Rainworth water* which rises near Newstead Abbey, runs to Inklesall dam and Rufford, and joins the *Maun* at Ollerton.

The *Maun,* or Man, rises in the forest between Kirkby and Newstead, and runs by Mansfield, Clipstone, and Edwinstow, to Ollerton.

The *Meden* rises in the forest near Sutton Hardwick, and runs by Budby through Thoresby Park; it joins the Maun near Palethorpe, and from this junction the two rivers take the name of The Idle.

The *Wolten* runs through Welbeck Park, and after receiving the Poulter from Langwith, through Cuckney, by Carburton, and thence through Clumber Park into the Idle near Elkesley.

The *Worksop* river runs from Worksop by Scofton, Bilby, and Scrooby, and enters into the Idle at Bawtry.

The *Idle,* after assuming that name, runs in a course nearly north, by Haughton Park, through Retford towards Mattersey; thence north-west to Bawtry, where it takes an eastern course past Misson, and traversing the *Car* falls into the Trent near its junction with the Chesterfield canal, in the north east angle of the county.

There are two others north of Trent which run in a southerly direction.

The *Lene* rises near the source of the Maun between Kirkby and Newstead: runs through Newstead Park, by Papplewick, Bulwell, Basford, Lenton, and thence into the Trent, by Nottingham bridge. It will be treated of more particularly in the description of that town.

Dover or *Dare beck* runs from near Bludworth by Oxton, Calverton,

* Sketch of Sherwood forest, by major Hayman Rooke.

Calverton, Eperston, Lowdham, and thence into the Trent by Caythorpe near Hoveringham.

All these may be considered as belonging to the forest. South of Trent there are many small rivers which take their rise in the wolds, and convey their tributary streams to that river, but none of them require particular notice.

With such facilities of inland communication it is not to be supposed that

CANALS have been neglected; in fact we find Nottinghamshire as well supplied in that mode of commercial intercourse as any county in the kingdom.

The *Nottingham Canal* in some measure claims the precedence; its general course being about fifteen miles through the county in a north-west direction, but not exactly in a right line. It commences in the river Trent, and proceeds to the Cromford canal near Langley bridge, very near to the termination of the Erwash canal; and it is also connected with the side cut from the Trent and Mersey navigation, called generally the Trent canal, which enters near its southern limit. Its bed is not greatly elevated, and its supply is principally from the river; however to guard against deficiencies of water in dry seasons, a reservoir has been made near Arnswirch, with a self regulating sluice, which lets off above 3000 cubic feet of water per hour for the use of some mills in its neighbourhood, and also for the Erwash canal. This navigation was finished in 1802; and the principal object of its undertakers were the export of agricultural produce, and of coals from the various mines in its vicinity, together with the importation of lime, timber, and other heavy articles.

The *Grantham Canal* is also connected with the Trent, commencing near Holme Pierpoint, and having a branch upwards of three miles in length, leading to the town of Bingham. The system of lockage on that part of the line which is in this county is very extensive; for on the rise of the wolds from the Trent to Cromwell Bishop, in a line of only six miles and a half,

a half, there is a gradual elevation of eighty-two feet; but from Cropwell to Stainwith, closes there is a dead level of twenty miles. The proprietors of the Trent river navigation having been at a considerable expense in deepening the river near to the entrance of this canal, they are intitled to take certain tolls on all goods passing from this to the Nottingham canal; which have of late years risen to a considerable amount. In 1793 it was in contemplation to have formed a junction between this and Newark and Bottesford canal near Stainwith, which would have made a complete line of water communication between the south-eastern part of Nottinghamshire and the adjoining country.

The *Idle River Canal* must not pass unnoticed, although it is more properly a river navigation than a *cut*. It commences at Bawtry, and runs nearly east for ten miles along the northern verge of the county. In one part of its course it has the name of Bycar Dyke; and about half a mile from Stockwith, where it joins the Trent, (close to the junction of the Chesterfield canal with that river) is Misterton Sas or Sluice which has an opening of seventeen feet eight inches, with two lock doors or gates sixteen feet high opening to the Trent, for the purpose of keeping the floods out of the low lands through which this river flows.

But the most important water communication in the northern district of the county, is the *Chesterfield Canal*, which commences in Derbyshire close to that town, and enters Nottinghamshire near Shire Oaks, thence by Worksop through the northern limits of Sherwood forest in a circuitous direction by Babworth to Retford, where it changes its course suddenly to the north, passing through Welham, Hayton, Clarborough, and Clayworth, by Wiseton Hall, Everton, and Drakelow, where it runs through a tunnel of two hundred and fifty yards, and thence round Gringley on the hill in a north east direction through Misson Car to Misterton, across Walkeringham moor, and thence into the Trent at Stockwith. The advantages which

have already resulted from this line of communication, are sensibly felt through the whole of this district.

The whole line of this canal is about forty miles; from Chesterfield it rises about forty-five feet until it reaches Norwood, both in Derbyshire, and from thence to the Trent it has a regular fall of three hundred and thirty-five feet.

The ROADS of Nottinghamshire are generally in very good order. It is needless to mention that portion of the *Great North Road* which runs through the county from Newark to Bawtry; but it is but justice to the county at large to say that the whole of the roads through it are nearly in as good order as can possibly be expected, from the *bottoms* on which they are formed, and the *materials* which can be procured for their formation and preservation. Much of this has arisen from the various parishes having taken up the business with a determination to see it well executed, and from the public spirit of the gentry and the better order of farmers who have sedulously undertaken the office of surveyors, instead of leaving it to some careless contractor, whose sole object was to finish a certain number of perches of road, without any regard to its fitness to endure even the next winter season.

In some places indeed, particularly in the coal districts, and in the clays, the carriage of a heavy article, and the want of a good bottom, have formed a few exceptions; and in the forest district also, there are some places, particularly between Retford and Worksop, and again between Worksop and Warsop, where a heavy sand forms an almost insurmountable obstacle to the establishment of a convenient line of road. The first of these being in the direct line of road from Gainsborough to Sheffield, it ought to be an object with the county to amend it if possible; but with respect to the latter, the sands are too deep perhaps ever to admit of amelioration. To avoid the worst part of this road, the duke of Portland, in some instances, permits carriages to pass through his park; but with respect to the road itself, the editor of these sheets can give no better idea than

than in stating the fact, that in the autumnal season, even after some slight rain had fallen to fix the sands, he was three hours going from Worksop to Church Warsop in a post chaise, though the distance is only eight miles! It is perhaps not to be expected that any rapid amelioration can take place in these sandy roads, on account of the enormous expense which would attend the transport of lime and gravel, or other materials; but with respect to the roads in the clay district, the following hints from the author of the late Agricultural Survey of the County may not be misplaced. He states that the most approved system of forming new roads on clay or wet bottoms, is first to throw the soil from the sides, leaving a groove in the middle for the materials, beginning with brush-wood laid on plentifully, over which must be deposited a sufficient quantity of stones and gravel. If the gravel is very sharp and good, he thinks there is no necessity to round the road. He also asserts that a *concave* surface has been found to answer very well; but still acknowledges that where the materials are tender; it may be better to round it a little, though not so much as is generally done, as that is often dangerous and always hurtful to the road, by obliging carriages to keep one track, and thus cut it up in deep ruts.

The numerous improvements in the inland navigation of this county, have tended much to the increase of its

COMMERCE, of which a good idea may be formed by a brief enumeration of the various articles of export and import on the various lines of water-carriage.

The *exports* which pass either *from* or *through* the county, and in either case form a very lucrative business for many thousands of the population, are lead, copper, coals, and salt from Derbyshire and Cheshire; Staffordshire ware in considerable quantities; lime and limestone for agricultural purposes; chirt stone for the glass manufactories; coarse earthen wares; pig iron and cast metal goods; oak timber and bark; and sail-cloth.

The imports for county consumption, and for the supply of the neighbouring districts, are timber, hemp, flax and iron from the northern parts of Europe; malt, corn, and flour; groceries of all kinds; wines and spirits; cotton wool, and yarn; large quantities of flints from Northfleet and the various chalk-pits near the Thames, for the use of the Staffordshire potteries; and in short all species of raw materials for inland manufactures. The

MANUFACTURES of the county are upon a scale equally extensive. The *stocking manufactory* has long been a staple, and is the most ancient manufacture of the county; it is to be lamented however, that the partial stoppage of exportation from the present enslaved state of the Continent, and the machinations of some designing characters, have lately produced scenes of riot and outrage disgraceful to those concerned in them, and highly injurious to the county at large. The particulars of this manufacture will be entered into more fully, in the description of Nottingham.

Cotton Mills have now become a considerable branch of manufacture from their connection with the stocking trade. These have also undertaken to produce a supply of cotton twist for the Manchester trade. In the town of Nottingham alone there are no less than eight of these establishments; at Mansfield there are three; at Papplewick and Linby, six; at Newark, two; besides others at Worksop, Redford, Southwell, &c. &c. to the number of twelve or thirteen; and four establishments of worsted mills.

The *Malting business* is another lucrative branch, principally at Nottingham, Newark, and Mansfield; and this is both for the home consumption, and exportation to the counties in the vicinity.

The *Breweries* at Nottingham and Newark are also objects of great importance; at the latter place in particular, they considered themselves as powerful rivals of the Burton brewers, and their foreign trade was very considerable previous to the present circumscribed state of continental commerce.

Silk

Silk mills have been established at Nottingham, to be worked by horses; for though there is so much water round that town, yet the frequent floods preclude all possibility of employing water mills, except by the adoption of a principle which we shall notice in its proper place.

The *Thread* and *British Lace* manufactures have long been carried on upon an extensive scale; but the unfortunate fondness for French and Brussels lace, though even much of that is *British lace flowered and ornamented* on the Continent, has always operated against that due encouragement which the industry of our own manufacturers and our own working poor, ought to receive from the fashionable and the opulent.

Potteries of coarse red earthen ware have been established with some success at Sutton in Ashfield. A *starch* manufactory is now at work at Upton near Southwell. A *sailcloth* manufactory has long been in a flourishing condition at Retford; and a *dying and bleaching trade* has been attempted with considerable success both at Nottingham and Newark. Considerable sums have been annually received at Mansfield by the *stone trade*; and there is also something done there in the manufacture of *artificial stone*.

The flourishing state of the county of Nottingham may perhaps be most accurately proved from the progressive increase of its

POPULATION.—At the close of the seventeenth century, the number of houses in the county were 17,554; and the inhabitants were estimated at 105,300.

In 1801, there were found to be 68,558 males, and 71,792 females, amounting to 140,350 in all; 35,513 of whom were employed in different manufactures and in trade, and 23,904 in the various branches of agriculture.

By the recent parliamentary returns it appears that the increase of population has been considerable; males 79,057; females 83,843: forming a total of 162,900, and an increase of 22,550.

We have already made some observations on the size of the farms in this county, all of which are upon a moderate scale; and we must again revert to that subject in our consideration of the

Poor and Poor's Rates.—As these are in a great measure corroborative, in this county, of the general principles there adverted to.

Eden, in his very useful work on the state of the poor throughout the kingdom, speaking of a parish in a neighbouring county, but bordering close upon Nottinghamshire, says, that many people of this parish attribute the rise in the poor's rates to the enclosure of the common fields; because, say they, before the enclosure took place, farms were then from ten to forty-pounds per annum, and any person could then rent a small tenement; but now the parish being mostly thrown into large farms, it requires a very considerable capital to stock one. This circumstance reduces therefore numbers to the necessity of living in a state of servile dependence on the large farmers; and as they have no prospect to which their hopes can reasonably look forward, their industry is checked, economy is deprived of its greatest stimulant, and their only thought is how to enjoy the present moment!

Let us now look at the state of the poor in Nottinghamshire, where large farms are fortunately, as yet, almost unknown. A very faithful picture of them has been drawn by Mr. Lowe in his agricultural view of the county, which having been found correct, as far as a cursory survey would admit of, we shall venture to take it as our ground work. He tells us, and that too with justice, that there are few counties in England where the poor will be found better lodged, clothed or, fed, or better provided with fuel.* Most cottages have a garden, and potatoe garth,

* In this the *manufacturing* poor must be excepted; for here as in all other places, they have that system of luxurious, yet brutish, indulgence, and that slatternly poverty, which must always keep them in abject penury, and in almost absolute *voluntary* want!

garth, and few of them are without a web of cloth of their own spinning; many of them, particularly in the clays, have a few acres of land annexed to their cottages, and are thereby enabled to keep a cow in addition to their pigs; and here too the poor may be actually said to be industrious, for here they are often seen themselves, as well as their children, employed at their leisure hours in collecting the horse dung from the public roads, either for the use of their own gardens or to sell.*

Now the consequences of all this, if not *obvious*, are at least *certain*; for here in general the *rates* do not run so high as in other counties where manufactures have formerly flourished, though now gone to decay; but, adds Mr. Lowe, at the same time, it is a matter of concern to observe, that the manufactures, particularly that of stockings, whilst they increase the population, increase at the same time the burthen of the poor's rate on the occupiers of land; which may be ascribed to the lower manufacturers too frequently spending all their earnings, without looking forward to a time of old age and infirmity.

As a remedy for this evil in the *manufacturing* part of the county, Mr. Lowe very properly recommends the extension of friendly societies, or the making some more competent provision by the legislature on the same principle; but we fear that until the nature of mankind is altered, no radical cure will ever be found for the evil amongst the *manufacturing poor*, though much may certainly be done in the way of regulation; perhaps by premiums to those who have brought up the largest families without parochial assistance; by *Tontines* on the principles of collection established in Friendly Societies; and even by encouraging those clubs where money is collected for the purchase of various useful but expensive articles of furniture, and where each member's chance of possessing the monthly prize is determined by what is generally termed a *raffle*. All these will tend to produce a spirit of economy; and some of them may in the end be highly beneficial and lucrative to individuals;

* Agricultural Survey, p. 140.

dividuals; but perhaps the speediest and most useful reform, both as a temporary and as a lasting expedient, would be the removal of the manufacturers *pay tables* from the public houses. This would take away from the poor manufacturer the temptation to drink, because it would check the landlord in his system of giving credit, and it would save the sober industrious mechanic from the absolute necessity he is always under of spending part of his money in the alehouse on pay nights, even although he should not have incurred any debts there through the week.

The agricultural will always indeed have advantages over the manufacturing poor; but much will depend on the difference of habits, for the advantage of wages is always on the side of the latter.

The farming labourer has seldom in this county been in the receipt of more than eighteen pence per day, though in the harvest months it may amount to a couple of shillings. The hours of labour for this, are the common ones in general use; but if the labourer undertakes task work, he may increase his gains by a little industry without injuring or over fatiguing himself. His provisions are rather moderate than otherwise; and his fuel may always be had reasonable since the extension of water carriage. Upon the whole we may consider the poor of this county as comparatively comfortable, though much yet remains to be done, both by themselves, and by those of the higher orders who may think it a more charitable act to *prevent* poverty by encouraging economy and industry, than to *relieve* it even with larger sums, where it might have been avoided, by a little prudent circumspection. Much of the comfort of the agricultural Poor must depend, as has been before observed, upon the division of land; and even their number must be much smaller where the farms are small, than where those who would have been farmers have no other mode of support than becoming the labourers of the rich overgrown capitalist, who regards them no longer than they are useful to him. We mean not this,

this, however as a general argument against large farms; *they* have their advantages, and it must even be confessed that in many parts of the kingdom, small farms would be infinitely less productive, acre for acre, than large ones. What we wish to enter a caveat against is merely that system of uniting many farms into one, which in many places has swept away whole hamlets, nay villages, where the residences of honest cheerful industry have actually been levelled with the dust, and nothing been left, but the solitary church, to mark that here had been the habitation of men; whilst the few unfortunate villagers that are unable to emigrate, or not old and helpless enough to gain admission into the workhouse, are crowded into rows of improved cottages, as they are called, and ranged like cattle in a stall without even a slip of garden ground to solace a summer's evening. But even *where* large farms are necessary, even this evil might be partially avoided, in regulating the new

Inclosures.—As by a due attention to the probable number of labouring poor in each parish, a sufficient number of small slips of one or two acres each might be enclosed for the purpose of raising cottages and forming garden ground for the agricultural poor, an arrangement tending not only to their benefit, but also to the advantage of the farmers themselves, as it would be an additional stimulus to industry, would excite an emulation amongst the labourers to become possessed of these small advantages, and would soon be sensibly felt in the diminution of poor's rates. It has indeed been objected that small portions of ground given to the poor will make them too independent, and render them unwilling to work for the farmer; but the man who can thus coolly object to the comfort of his fellow creatures, from an idea, and we believe a mistaken one too, of his own interest, deserves not an answer!

With respect to the principles and practice of inclosures in this county, it is not to be supposed that a summer Tourist can have witnessed their progress, but must judge of them rather by their actual state. In this repect, however, we believe that

the Nottinghamshire inclosures have not been productive of evils; they are now, and have been for some time, going on with great rapidity; the applications to parliament, every sessions, are numerous, and they have had the effect of raising the value of land very considerably wherever they have taken place. In fact there is now very little left to inclose, except some tracts on the western side, and about the middle of the forest. These are at present mostly rabbit warrens, and seem fit for very little else; indeed we understand that portions of these tracts have been taken into cultivation, but suffered again to run waste from their being totally unproductive. That this county has for some years been in a progressive state of

IMPROVEMENT is evident even to the passing stranger; but there are some facts recorded by Mr. Lowe in his survey, which prove it indubitably. One instance in particular is conclusive. He tells us that about thirty years ago, the sand lands in Gresthorp, Cromwell, and Muskham fields, all on the great north road between Newark and Retford, were not worth more than two shillings and sixpence per acre, covered with wild sorrel, and lea lay for six or seven years. Now they produce from eight to ten quarters of remarkably fine oats per acre; and this entirely effected by turnips and clover.

Much improvement may also be expected in future from the attention now paid to *draining*. In the new inclosure bills, drains are ordered by the commissioners, and provision made for their being properly kept up, which has already been found to be more effectual than the old laws of Sewers, of the neglect in the execution of which there have been great complaints in Nottinghamshire, as well as in the neighbouring counties.*

The ARCHITECTURE of the county will be best described under the various heads, and there is perhaps no county in the kingdom that displays a greater variety, principally modern; indeed we may assert that Nottinghamshire contains the residences

* Agricultural Survey, p. 98.

dences of more of the nobility and gentry than any other of its size. In what may be called *agricultural architecture*, however, great improvements have of late years been made, through the very patriotic exertions of several gentlemen of the county, who have thus not only ornamented but improved their estates, and in some measure corrected an existing evil; that is, the farm houses in most parts being chiefly situated in villages, and often at a distance from the farms. Great improvements have also been made in the farming offices, which not coming immediately within the plan of a work of this nature, we must refer for further information to Mr. Lowe's survey.

In Ecclesiastical Architecture, there are many elegant specimens of the *antique*, particularly in St. Mary's church in Nottingham, the collegiate church at Southwell, Newark church, the church of Radford with the abbey gate near Worksop, and several others which will be noticed in their proper places.

Of Ancient Sepulchral Monuments, however, the number is but limited; for, with the exception of the Furnival and Lovetot monuments at Radford, there are none older than the 14th century, of which period, Mr. Gough even with his accurate research could discover but six cross-legged figures of crusaders: one of which is at Flintham, and belongs to the Husseys, but who were not in possession of that manor before the eighth of Edward the third, so that its date cannot be anterior to 1383.

We have but little to observe on the subject of

Zoology, as Nottinghamshire has no particular genus of animals of any kind except the *old forest breed of sheep*, which are described as a small polled breed (though some are horned) with grey faces and legs: the fleeces run from thirteen to eighteen to the tod of twenty-eight pounds; and the carcases when fat are from seven to nine pounds per quarter. This breed, however, may be expected to be soon worn out, as the various crosses have been found to improve both carcase and

fleece so much, that few farmers will now rear them, when their weight may be nearly trebled by a mixture of the Dishley breed. In some experiments which have been made on the fleeces, it has been ascertained that the forest and Lincolnshire breeds mixed have produced eight pounds of wool, but the Forest alone, only five: and with respect to price, that has been more than doubled by the cross of the Bakewell breed. It is a curious fact, and deserving of attention in other counties, that though the coal district in the west of Nottinghamshire is very apt to bring on the rot in sheep, yet many hundreds of the infected have been cured by a removal to limestone land; from whence it has been inferred, with some appearance of truth, that water impregnated with the fixed acid of lime in proper quantities, with change of pasture, as soon as the disease appeared, might be attended with every chance of success. The experiment is at least worth trying.

Mr. Lowe tells us, that in the clay district more *pigeons* are kept than are probably in any other part of the kingdom: and he says it is a well attested fact that some years ago, seven hundred dozen were sold, on one market day at Tuxford, for sixty-three guineas.

The forest of Sherwood has been so long disused for its ancient purpose as a preserve for game, that little is to be said on that point: there is a curious fact, however, respecting *Falconry* recorded by Fuller, not undeserving of notice. "We must not forget how two Ayres of Lannards were lately found in Sherwood forest. These Hawks are the natives of Saxony, and it seems being old and past flying at the game, were let, or did set themselves loose, where meeting with lanerets enlarged on the same terms, they did breed together, and proved as excellent in their kind, when managed, as any which were brought from Germany."

Before we close this *general sketch* of the county, it will not be irrelevant to take a short view of its

MUNICIPAL AND PARLIAMENTARY HISTORY; but of these there

is

is little peculiarly novel to be noticed. The counties of Derby and Nottingham were under the same sheriff, (an officer appointed here as early as in any other part of the kingdom) until after the reign of Edward the third.

With respect to its parliamentary history, we have found but few violent contests. In the "History of Boroughs" indeed there are loud complaints that the county is under the influence of the aristocracy, from having so many noblemen resident in it; but this will always be the case, influence always will exist, and the Editor of that work himself tacitly approves of it in describing the attempts made by Major Cartwright to restore the independence of the county at a time when he was encouraging the honest industry of the county by his manufactures. Now surely, without denying the major every credit for his disinterested and patriotic designs, if he had succeeded in consequence of the good opinion of the freeholders, this very success would have been the effect of influence; not a dishonest one 'tis true, but proceeding from an *interested* feeling on the part of some of the voters at least. In short it is not the influence we ought to complain of, but the bad use made of it, when that takes place.

The ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of Nottinghamshire is under the see of York; but it had formerly, even as late as the reign of Elizabeth, a bishop of its own. At present it has an archdeaconry, and the four deaneries of Nottingham, Bingham, Newark, and Retford. There are in all in the county 182 parishes and chapelries, which are within the jurisdiction of the arch-deacon; to which we must add 28 parishes and chapelries belonging to Southwell; also 7 parishes and chapelries within the jurisdiction of the dean and chapter of York, and the peculiar of Kinolton, whose vicar is collated by the archbishop.*

There

* Those who wish further information may consult the appendix to Dering, where there are copious lists of the churches, and chapels of each deanery, with their patrons, &c.

There are several instances of

COUNTY BIOGRAPHY, which as we are unable to refer them to their specific birth places, must be generally noticed here.

SIR JOHN FENTON KNT. was born in this county, and was for twenty-seven years a privy counsellor in Ireland to Queen Elizabeth and King James. He translated the history of Guicciardini out of the original Italian into English, and dedicated it to Queen Elizabeth. He died at Dublin in 1603.

EDWARD FENTON, his brother, was also born in this county. He in very early life displayed an inclination for nautical affairs, and was very active in the various attempts at discovery about Hudson's Bay, Greenland, and the other northern parts of the American continent, so fashionable at that period. Much respecting him may be found both in Hackluyt, and in Purchas.

THOMAS HORNE another Nottinghamshire man, became a student at Magdalen Hall, Oxford, in 1624, and was soon admitted to the degree of M. A. He seems to have distinguished himself much by his abilities as a pedagogue; for soon after taking his degree he was appointed master of a private school in London, was shortly after chosen master of the free-school at Leicester, where he remained only two years, and was thence translated to that of Tunbridge in Kent. His merits did not long remain unnoticed; for after a residence of about ten years at the latter place, he was preferred to the head mastership at Eton, where he remained during the residue of his life. If we may judge of his practical abilities by several works which he has left behind him introductory to, and illustrative of, classical education, it must be confessed that he was highly deserving of the promotions and encouragement he met with.

WILLIAM HOLDER, D. D. a native of this county, is particularly deserving of notice, being esteemed, and we believe justly, as the *Inventor of the art of teaching the dumb to speak.* He was educated at Pembroke Hall, where he took the degree of M. A. and shortly after received the rectory of Blechingdon in Oxfordshire.

Oxfordshire. During the civil wars he seems to have acted a loyal part; for on the restoration he was made a canon both of Ely, and of St. Paul's; shortly after he was appointed sub-dean of the chapel, and sub-almoner to the king; and he was also one of the earliest members of the Royal Society. A cotemporary biographer says "he was a great virtuoso, and got himself a great name by his wonderful art, in making a young gentleman, Alexander Popham, son of Colonel Edward Popham, who was born deaf and dumb, to speak; how he did it he tells us in a discourse of the Elements of Speech, which he wrote for that purpose, and to promote a public good. But the young man being taken from him too young, or before he grew perfect in his speech, lost what he had been taught by the doctor; and was sent to Dr. Wallis of Oxford (who had recovered the speech of a young gentleman, one Mr. Whalley) to restore his speech again, which Dr. Wallis having effected, he vainly assumed the glory of it to himself, without taking notice of Dr. Holder, the first Inventor of it in England, if not in the whole world. This provoked Dr. Holder to vindicate himself, against Dr. Wallis, in a treatise which he calls "a Supplement to the Philosophical Transactions of July 1670;" to which Dr. Wallis published an answer soon after, and so the controversy ended." Now, without presuming to settle the point of priority in dispute between Drs. Holder and Wallis, we may hence justly infer that the world at large is indebted to England for this great discovery; and that all the boastings of the French Abbés Sicard, and De l'Epee, are nothing more than the arrogant insolence of Frenchmen, who, either through ignorance or impudence, would claim for themselves and their countrymen, every thing honourable possessed by other nations. Dr. Holder also wrote "A Treatise of Music," both theoretic and practical, in which he is said to have had great skill.

Nottinghamshire boasts of two extraordinary characters of the name of *Sterne*; but the one to which we here allude was

RICHARD

Richard Sterne D. D. who was born in this county in 1598; and said to have been descended from an ancient stock. His early years were spent at the free-school at Nottingham; and he afterwards went to Christ Church college, Oxford, when he graduated with much credit to himself, and was soon after admitted to holy orders. He soon attracted the notice of Archbishop Laud, who appointed him one of his chaplains; and his character was now so well established that he was immediately afterwards elected master of Jesus College, by the unanimous vote of the fellows.

It does not appear that he took any active part in the affairs which brought his patron to the scaffold; however, when the charges were brought forward against the Archbishop, and he was in consequence committed a prisoner to the Tower, his enemies had sufficient influence to cause Dr. Sterne to be sent thither also. They were unable, indeed, to prove any thing against him, and were obliged, though unwillingly, to permit him to be set at liberty, after the public execution of the Archbishop. During the civil wars, and protectorate, he retired into a safe obscurity; but was called from it on the Restoration, and immediately afterwards appointed bishop of Carlisle. In 1664, he was promoted to the archbishopric of York, which he enjoyed for twenty years, and died in 1684.

Having thus taken a brief view of the county in its various relations, it remains for us, previous to entering upon the specific topography, to delineate the

FOREST OF SHERWOOD,

Which embraces a large portion of Nottinghamshire, and which, according to Camden "some render the clear, some the famous forest, anciently thick set with trees, whose entangled branches were so twisted together, that they hardly left room for a single person to pass. At present" he adds "it is much thinner, but still breeds an infinite number of deer, and stags, with lofty antlers:" this however was in the reign of Elizabeth.

Gilpin

Gilpin* in his elegant delineations of forest scenery, observes that Britain, like other countries, abounded once in wood; but as it became more cultivated, its woods of course receded. That our woods were often cut down merely for the sake of tillage and pasturage, without any respect to the uses of timber, seems to be evident from the great quantities of subterranean trees dug up in various parts of England. These are chiefly found in marshy grounds, which abounded indeed every where before the arts of draining were in use; and nothing was necessary in such places to produce the future phenomenon of subterranean timber, but to carry the trees, when cut down, upon the surface of the bog, which might easily be done in dry summers. Dr. Plot,† who also seems to be of this opinion, adduces several reasons for supposing that they might have been buried in this way, to make room for the plough: he also imagines that the English might begin to clear their lands for tillage as early as the reign of Alfred the Great.

There is indeed some plausibility in this theory; for at present even the vestiges of most of our English forests are obliterated; and scarce any of them can now boast of their sylvan honours. 'Tis true, however, that some of the woods were destroyed in licentious times; and that many of them have been suffered, through mere neglect, to waste away from the pillage of a dishonest neighbourhood.

Leland during his journey seems not to have paid much attention to the then state of this woodland tract. He says "coming oute of the town of Mansfield, withyn a little way; passed over the brooke that renneth in the vale hard by it. This brooke a 3 miles by west above the town of Mansfield, and a 3 miles lower goeth by Clypstone as I harde.

"Soone after I entered, withyn the space of a mile or lesse, into the very thick of the woddy Forest of Sherwood, wher ys greate game of Deere: and so I rode a v miles in the very woddy

* Gilpin's Forest Scenery.
† Plot's Staffordshire.

woddy grounde of the Forest, and so to a little pore streete a thoroughfare at the end of the wood.*

"A little or I came to the end of this wodde, I left about a quarter of a mile on the right hand, the Ruins of Newstead a priory of Chanons."

In less than a century after this, Thoroton tells us that the pleasant and glorious condition of this noble forest, is now wonderfully declined; and he adds, there is at present (1675) and long hath been a justice seat held under my Lord's Grace the Duke of Newcastle, Justice in Eyre of all his Majesty's forests north of Trent, wherein it seems his deputies or lieutenants have allowed such and so many claims, that there will not shortly be wood enough left to cover the bilberries, which every summer were wont to be an extraordinary great profit and pleasure to poor people who gathered them, and carried them all about the country to sell.

Notwithstanding this early devastation there is still much woodland scenery in existence, sufficient to give a pretty accurate idea of what was once a forest life. Gilpin, (whose observations are so very picturesque, that we shall take an opportunity of embodying many of them in this delineation as highly illustrative of what may be esteemed one of the chief beauties of Nottinghamshire) remarks, that this once celebrated forest was formerly the frequent scene of royal amusement. As early as the time of Henry the second, Mansfield was the general residence of the court upon these occasions, and it was in its vicinity that Henry made an acquaintance with the miller of famous memory, Sir John Cockle; but in treating of Mansfield at greater length, we shall perhaps have an opportunity of shewing that this old legendary story is by no means of such an early date. This forest was also the retreat of another personage, equally celebrated in the Chronicle of ballad, the illustrious Robin Hood, who with little John and the rest of his associates, making

* This seems to have been Papplewick,

making the woody scenes of it their asylum, laid the whole country under contribution.*

It is a matter of serious regret, in a picturesque point of view, that none of our landscape painters have ever thought of studying in this forest; for it cannot be denied by those who have actually traversed it, that it would afford many specimens of landscape, new to the English school, and of which no good likeness can be found among the Italian painters. Its style is totally different from the rocks and woods of Claude Lorraine, or the savage scenery of Salvator Rosa; but it has a wildness peculiar to itself, varying with the hours of the day and with all the atmospheric changes to which England is so subject; so that in fact there is scarcely a ferny heath, a knoll, or glade, that does not present some novelty to the lover of picturesque beauty. Having traversed its woodland haunts in every direction, under all the changes of an autumnal season, and 'midst all the varieties accompanying the aerial landscape at early dawn, during the glare of open day, and whilst the dewy hand of evening is slowly drawing her sober tinted mantle of grey over the receding thickets, and all nature sinks into repose, the editor of these sheets feels that he would leave the most interesting of the Beauties of this county but imperfectly noticed, if he did not enter at some length into the application of the principles of the picturesque as far as they relate to this forest, and which are so ably laid down by the inimitable investigator of the charms of English sylvan landscape. Nothing can be more correct than his first principle that there are few extensive forests which do not contain, in some part or other, a specimen of every species of woody scenery. The wild forest view indeed differs essentially from the embellished one, for beauty is not the characteristic of the forest. It disdains all human culture; and the very name, from our accustomed association of ideas, immediately suggests to the imagination a continued and uninterrupted tract of woody country.

* Vide Gilpin's Forest Scenery.

This forest however, if it does not possess what the landscape gardener would term beautiful, has in itself every variety of sylvan scenery, consisting of pasture tracts, of woody country intermixed with pasturage, and in many places with cultivated enclosures. These intermingled scenes are again divided from other intermixtures of the same kind, by wild heaths which are sometimes bounded by a naked line of horizon, at others skirted with wood: and this intermixture of wood and pasturage, with large separations of heath, gives a variety to many tracts of Sherwood Forest which could not be expected in a boundless continuance of woody scenery alone.

The forest heath too, though to the common observer it presents only ideas of sterility and desolation, becomes a most interesting scene to the tasteful admirer of nature, when bounded, as it generally is in this forest, by woods in various directions, and interspersed here and there with lately planted clumps which almost imperceptibly unite its woody boundaries with the wide foreground of heath and gravel. A very pleasing contrast too may be discovered in the broad masses of colour in the wild extent of heath and the various portions of gravelly surface, broken as they often are by the rude forest tracks, or dotted in deeper shades with patches of furze, fern, or other wild plants which stain it as it were with every shade of green, or enliven it with the livelier tints of the yellow furze blossoms. But among all the minuter plants, as Mr. Gilpin observes, *fern* is the most picturesque. In itself it is beautiful. We admire it, adds he, for the form of its leaf—its elegant mode of hanging—and its dark brown polished stem. As an accompaniment also, nothing is better suited to unite the higher plants with the ground; whilst its bright green hues in summer, and its ochre tint in autumn, join each season with its correspondent tinge. In some places too the most pleasing ideas of animated nature break in upon the desart scene, from the woodman's cottage, or groupes of cattle, or the starting deer, and when these circumstances come in unexpectedly, and happily unite with the

time of day, or with the general expression given to the scene by the state of the atmosphere, it does not require much taste to perceive that, to a picturesque eye, the wild heath may become one of the most interesting scenes of the forest. To this must be added the incidental appearance of smoke, either from the low-roofed cottage, or from the frequent practice of burning the gorse and fern for agricultural purposes, and which is always attended with peculiar beauty in woodland scenery. In the latter case, its effect is always striking, for then we see it in large masses spreading in the forest glades, and forming a soft back ground to the trees which intercept it; and as this process generally takes place in autumn, it contrasts more happily with their russet foliage, or withered ramifications.

Mr. Gilpin observes that the blasted tree has often a fine effect both in natural and in artificial landscape. When the dreary heath is spread before the eye, and ideas of wildness and desolation are even wished for, surely no accompaniment more suitable to the scene can be imagined than the blasted oak, ragged, scathed, and leafless, shooting its peeled white branches, athwart the gathering blackness of some rising storm! It must be confessed indeed that much of forest beauty, if *beauty* it can be called, depends upon the adventitious circumstances of *time* and *season*. He who would enjoy the various pleasures incidental to the contemplation of nature in Sherwood Forest, must not shrink from the evening's chill, nor from the passing storm. When the tempest scowls over the forest, as Gilpin sublimely exclaims, as we traverse its deep recesses, what grandeur do the internal parts of it receive from the casual ray darting upon them! or when we view the storm blackening behind the trees, with what wonderful effect does the sun, in an opposite direction, strike their tufted heads. But if that sun be setting, whilst the tempest is brewing over the hemisphere—black towards the east—lurid—more purple—and glowing with red, as it advances towards the west—the scene is too sublime for description. But even in the stillest evenings there is a silent and

a sacred charm produced by the effect of a declining sun, while the traveller is treading the mazes of the forest especially in broken ground; because, if moving with any rapidity, he is constantly shifting his sensible horizon. For then how often and with what delightful effect, does he see the sun's broad disk just appearing above a woody hill, throwing a mass of light upon the broad tints of green, or darting his lengthening ray through the branches, whilst the shadows of surrounding objects, seem extended to the distance. But the partial breaks of light, are at this time the most beautiful; for then the sun-beams, so much softer than the glare of noon, sometimes catch the tops of those groves that hang midway upon the shaggy steep, and slightly touching here and there some other prominent objects imperceptibly mix their ruddy tint with the surrounding mists, appearing to set the upper parts on fire, whilst the lower skirts are lost "in a darkness of varied confusion, in which trees, and dark ground, and radiance, and obscurity, are all blended together" as if rendering darkness more visible.

It is not however in any one district of Sherwood, that all these varieties can be seen. The open heath with its accompaniments may be traced through these broad tracts that lie between Beskwood and Mansfield, skirting Newstead abbey, and extending to the right towards Oxton and Farnsfield. The wild expanse, overgrown with gorse and fern, and skirted with woodland scenery, may be traversed between Mansfield and Ollerton, round Edwinstow and Rufford, and including the scenery of Clipstone Park. Whilst the more varied scenery of ancient forest, of thickening foliage intermixed with open lawns, and breaks of cultivation, may be found round Warsop and Carburton including much of the park landscape of Welbeck, Worksop, Clumber, and Thoresby, and extending to the northern limits of the forest land to the right of the road from Worksop to Retford. The whole of which is finely contrasted on the eastern bounds, by the rich scenes of cultivation and enclosure extending from Haughton park to Southwell, and

where

where in general the ground is sufficiently broken to add the picturesque to the beautiful. Such are the scenes, that, even in its denuded condition, may be traced throughout Sherwood forest; we shall now slightly touch upon its ancient history and present state. It appears that the forest was anciently divided or rather known, by the names of Thorney Wood, and High Forest; the first of which, although by much the smallest, contained within its limits no less than nineteen towns or villages, amongst which Nottingham was included; and the High Forest is described as abounding with fine stately oaks, and being entirely free from underwood. The first time in which we find this forest particularly mentioned was in the reign of Henry the second, it being then, as we have before noticed, a place of royal resort, and also famous as the principal haunt of Robin Hood and his trusty bowmen.

It appears by an inquisition held at Nottingham in that reign, that the archbishop of York had a right, or a custom, of hunting in the forest, nine days in every year; three at Christmas, three at Easter, and three at Whitsuntide; and also that the archbishop and his canons, and his men, had here their proper foresters, and aeryes of hawks, and pannage. It is evident indeed, that, although not mentioned by any writers before this reign, it must have been for some time previous, of considerable consequence; for the first session of justices in Eyre, held by order of Henry, was under the superintendance of the bishops of Durham and Lincoln, and the earl of Leicester. The last of these sessions upon record in the Tally Office of the Exchequer, is in a book in which is entered the claims and commencement of a justice-seat held here before the then lord Cromwell who was chief justice in Eyre north of Trent, and which must have taken place sometime after the 26th year (1534) of Henry the eighth. In the same reign there was also a perambulation, which is preserved by Thoroton, much more minute than any preceding ones, but not essentially differing in the extent of its limits.

According to *Thoroton*, SHERWOOD FOREST extends into the Hundreds of Broxton, Thurgarton, and Bassetlaw. He considers its origin, as a forest, uncertain; but although not mentioned by name, earlier than the time of Henry the second, he shews it must have been known as a forest long before, for William Peverel in the *first* year of that reign, was called upon to answer "De Placitis Forestæ" in this county. At that time he had the whole profit and command of this forest; but it must soon after have fallen to the crown, for in Henry's eighth year (1161) the sheriff of the county prays to be discharged of 4*l.* in vasto forestæ; and two years afterwards he prays for the same discharge, also for 6*l.* 5*s.* 0*d.* paid to the constable, eight foresters and a warrener; and 40*l.* to the canons of Sherwood for alms.*

The old Forest Books contain a copy of a charter made by King John, before his coming to the crown and whilst earl of Morteyn, to Matilda de Caux and Ralph Fitzstephen her husband, and to their heirs, of all the liberties and free customs which any of the ancestors of the said Maud (lords of Laxton) held at any time in Nottinghamshire or Derbyshire, that is, all the forest of Nottingham and Derbyshires, as their ancestors ever held the same.

It afterwards came to John Birking as heir general to Matilda de Caux, and the 11th of Henry the third (1226) was in the possession of his son; but this line failing, it descended to the family of Everingham, who by heirship claimed "Custodiam Forestarum Regis" in both Notts' and Derby; but Thoroton is of opinion that this claim extended no farther than the preceding limits of Sherwood Forest, as Henry had disafforested all the other parts of those counties, five years before this claim was put in.

The Everingham family having lost their rights by forfeiture, in the reign of Edward the first, it came to the crown, since which time it has come generally under the civil jurisdiction of the

* It is probable these were the monks of Newstead Abbey.

the sheriffs of the county, and its forest jurisdiction has been granted to various individuals among the nobility and gentry, as special marks of royal favour.

Its manners and customs at that period are curious, and in some measure illustrative of the times; as recorded in an inquisition taken before Geoffrey de Langley, the king's justice in Eyre north of Trent. By this it appears that the chief keeper ought to have three deputy keepers over three districts in order to attach all trespasses, and present them at the attachment before the Verdurers.

In the first keeping which lay between the rivers Lene and Doverbeck, he was to have one forester riding, with a page and two foresters on foot; two verdurers; and two agisters. This keeping contained the three hays of Beskwood, Lindeby, and Willay.

The High Forest formed the second keeping; and here were two foresters riding, with two pages and two foresters on foot; here also were two verdurers, and two agisters. This keeping also included the two hays of Birkland and Billahay, with the park of Clipstone, which were to be under the care of two verdurers and two agisters.

The third keeping, Rumwoode, was to have one forester on foot; and two woodwards, one at Carburton, and the other at Budby; also two verdurers, and two agisters. It was further found that the chief keeper ought also to have a page bearing his bow through all the forest to gather *chiminage*.*

The whole extent of the forest from north to south is about twenty-five miles, and its breadth from seven to nine; which seems to agree with its ancient boundaries, for the perambulation in the 16th of Henry the third (1231) began at Coningswithford, by the highway towards Nottingham, on to Blackstone Haugh, and thence following the course of the Doverbeck into the Trent. Westerly, it went from Coningswith by Mayden Water to the town of Worksop, following the course of the river

* This seems to have been a fee for the formation and preservation of roads.

river to Pleasley, so up to Otter Brigges, then keeping the great highway to the Millford, thence to Mayneshead, by Hardwick and Kirkeby to Nun Carre, on towards Annesley, keeping the high road to Linbye through the midst of that town to Lene water, on to Lenton, "and from thence by the said water, as it was wont of old time to run into the water of Trent, to the fall of Doverbeck."

Although there were some disafforestation after this, yet they appear to have been again resumed; so that, as Thoroton states, this old perambulation stood in the year 1672, without any remarkable alteration. It must be remembered, however, that several tracts of land, particularly in the northern district as far as Rossington bridge, which lay in a waste state, had been generally esteemed part of the forest; but from the survey of 1609, they appear either not to have belonged to the forest, or to have been disafforested before that time.

The present state of this forest has been ably delineated by the late Major Rooke, who observes that it is the only one that now remains under the superintendance of the chief justice in Eyre, north of Trent, or which now belongs to the crown in that district.*

The FOREST OFFICERS, consist of a LORD WARDEN, who holds his office by letters patent from the crown, during pleasure;

* By the survey of 1609, this Forest was parcelled out in three walks. The north includes the towns of Carburton, Gleaddiorpe, Warsop, Nettleworth, Mansfield-woodhouse, Clipstone, Rufford, and Edwinstow; the hays of Birkland and Bilhagh, towns of Budby, Thoresby, Palethorpe, or Perevelthorpe, and Ollerton.

In the middle, are Mansfield, Pleasley hill, Skegby, Sutton, Hucknell, Fulwood, part of Kirkby, Blidworth, Papplewick, Newstead, part of Linby, and part of Annesley.

In the south, are the towns of Nottingham, part of Welford, with Radford, Sneinton, Colwick, Gedling, Stoke, Carleton, Burton, and Bulcote. Gunthorpe, Caythorpe, and Lowdham; Lambley, Arnold, Basford, Bulwell, Beskwood Park, Woodborough, Calverton, and Sauntesford Manor.

Vide *Appendix to Lowe's Agricultural Survey.*

sure; at present the *Duke of Newcastle:* a BOW-BEARER AND RANGER appointed by the lord warden during pleasure; at present, *Lord Byron:* and FOUR VERDURERS elected by the freeholders for life; who have each a tree out of the King's hays of Birkland and Bilhagh, and two guineas to each verdurer attending the inclosure of a break; the present verdurers are *Sir Francis Molyneux, Bart. J. Litchfield, Edward Thoroton Gould,* and *William Sherbrooke, Esqrs.*

There are also a STEWARD; nine KEEPERS, appointed by the verdurers during pleasure, having so many different walks, and each a salary of twenty shillings paid by the lord warden out of a fee farm rent from Nottingham castle.

There are also Two sworn WOODWARDS for Sutton and Carleton.

THORNEY WOOD CHACE, being a branch of the Forest, was granted by Queen Elizabeth, in 1599 to John Stanhope, Esq. as hereditary keeper, which is now enjoyed by the earl of Chesterfield.*

The *Surveyor General of the woods* has also a jurisdiction over this forest as far as regards the wood, and timber of the crown; he has a *deputy* in the forest who has a fee tree yearly, and a salary of twenty pounds paid out of the sales of wood.†

Mr.

* This chace comprehends the greatest part of the present *Southern* division of the forest. Mr. Lowe, in his Survey, says it is well stocked with fallow deer, the other parts having been stocked with red deer, which two species appear not to have intermixed in breed. The quantity of wood will soon be reduced, in consequence of the recent inclosures of Lambley and Gedling. The deer have been latterly much diminished, perhaps totally or nearly destroyed.

† To these officers, there were some additional ones in Thoroton's time, towards the close of the seventeenth century, for he tells us that the *twelve* Regarders were so reduced by an ordinance in the reign of Edward the first. Those twelve forest keepers were at that time, one of Mansfield, one of Mansfield Woodhouse, one of Annesley hills and Newstead, one of Papplewick one of Rumwoode and Oswald, one of Rufford, one of Bilhagh, one of Birkland,

Mr. Lowe states that the whole soil of the forest is understood to have been granted by the crown to different lords of manors, reserving only, in forest language, the *vert* and *venison*, or trees and deer. The latter were certainly in former times very numerous, and all of the red kind, with the exception of Thorney wood chace, where they were the fallow deer. Within the memory of many persons, now living, herds of a hundred or more might be seen together in different parts of this woodland district; but the extension of cultivation has driven them gradually from their accustomed haunts; and, except in preserved parks, there are none now to be found. The vert, and venison if there were any, are under the care of the verdurers already mentioned.

It was most certainly not quite an exaggeration in an author, who wrote about the middle of the last century,* to say that the woods were so destroyed, that Robin Hood would scarcely find shelter in Sherwood forest for a week; for of the ancient woodland, the principal remains are now only to be found in the hays of Birkland and Bilhagh, which form an open wood of large ancient oaks, free from underwood (except in one part where some natural birch is growing,) but most of them in a state of decay. The extent of this tract is about three miles, by one and a half; or about fifteen hundred acres: and in a survey about two and twenty years ago, they contained no more than ten thousand one hundred and seventeen trees, valued at a little more than seventeen thousand pounds. Part of these hays is in Thoresby park. Clumber park contains the remains of two venerable woods, which were called Clumber and Hardwick woods; and there are some other ancient districts of small extent consisting of Harlow wood, Thieves wood, and

land, one of Calverton, one of Farnesfield, one of Langton arbour and Blidworth, and one of Sutton in Ashfield. There were also a keeper of Nottingham park, a keeper of Clipstone, and several woodwards for every township.

* Tour through Great Britain, Vol. 3.

and some scattered portions of the Mansfield woods, which, however, can boast of very little valuable timber. These are all that remain of the *ancient woodland;* but we shall have occasion to enter more minutely into a description of the modern plantations which are now conducting on an extensive scale.

The enclosed parks, bordering on the forest land, have some antique and very august specimens of the ancient forest honours. Major Rooke observes that in Welbeck park, particularly, the extensive groves of ancient and majestic oaks are beautifully diversified by the slender and pendant branches of the silver-coated birch, with which they abound. Many of these venerable oaks are of an extraordinary size, and undoubtedly of very remote antiquity, perhaps not less than a thousand years old, some of them being upwards of thirty four-feet in circumference.

Among the many large trees, which are objects of curiosity to the botanical tourist, is an oak on the west side of Clipstone park, called the parliament oak, from a tradition of a parliament having been held there by Edward the first; and another near the north-end of the same park, called the Broad oak, measuring twenty seven feet and a half in circumference. Near Blidworth also, there is a very large and ancient elm called Langton arbour, which even some centuries ago was sufficiently remarkable to give a name to one of the forest walks, and to have a keeper appointed to it.*

A recent discovery has shewn a very curious mode of ascertaining

* In traversing the forest between Mansfield and Nottingham, the tourist will observe a large square pillar, on which was formerly a brass-plate with an inscription. This is on the north side of Harlow wood; and tradition says, that this pillar was formerly the place where the forest officers of the crown assembled annually on Holyrood-day, early in the morning, to receive the charge of the lord chief justice in Eyre, to view fences, and take an account of the deer, in order to make their presentments at the Sweinmote court, which was held on that day at Mansfield by a steward appointed by the lord chief justice in Eyre. *Rooke's Sketch of the Forest.*

taining the great antiquity of some of these trees. Major Rooke tells us that in cutting down some timber in Birkland and Bilhagh, *letters* have been found cut or stamped in the body of the trees; denoting the king's reign in which they were thus marked.

It seems that the bark was cut off and the letters cut in, after which the next year's wood grew over it but without adhering where the bark had been cut.

The cyphers are of James the first, of William and Mary, and one of King John! one of these with James's cypher was about one foot within the tree, and one foot from the centre: it was cut down in 1786.* One of William and Mary had the mark about nine inches within the tree, and three feet three inches from the centre; cut down also in 1786.

The mark of *John* was eighteen inches within the tree, and something more than a foot from the centre; it was cut down in 1791: but the middle year of John's reign was 1207, from which if we subtract 120 the number of years requisite for a tree of two feet in diameter to arrive at that growth, it will make the date of its planting 1085, or about twenty years after the conquest. The tree therefore, when cut down in 1791, must have been 706 years old, a fact scarcely credible; for it appears from the trees whose marks are better authenticated, that those exactly of the same size, when marked, had increased twelve inches in diameter in 172 years, whilst this one had increased no more than eighteen inches in 584 years. It must be allowed however that the surplus six inches of difference contained a greater cubic quantity, than the six inches immediately within them, and would therefore require a longer time for their increase, and that in the proportion of an increasing progression.

* This tree must have been therefore two feet in diameter, or two yards in circumference when the mark was cut. Now a tree of that size is generally estimated at one hundred and twenty years' growth, which number subtracted from the middle year of James's reign, would make 1491 the date of the planting of the tree.

sion.* This very accurate delineator of Sherwood Forest, accounts for these phenomena, by supposing (as the increasing wood never adheres where the bark has been taken off) that the sap which rises from the roots through the capillary tubes of the wood, to the branches, returns in its circulation between the *bleo* and the bark. "I have often," says he, "examined many of the ancient hollow trees in Birkland and in Bilhagh, and always found that where the bark remained, even on their mutilated trunks, there they frequently put out small branches with leaves; but where that necessary coveting of the returning sap was wanting, there was no appearance of vegetation."

With respect to modern improvement in this forest, much has already been done; but there is one point which requires more attention than has hitherto been paid to it. Mr. Throsby, in his additions to Thoroton, has already given a hint on this subject, and it were well if it could be attended to. He says, "in passing over this forest, I observed that it is now in a great measure inclosed between Blyth and Nottingham. As many parts of it are but thinly inhabited at present, and in consequence of the inclosures you meet with a great variety of roads branching here and there, *handposts would be extremely useful*. They are at all times in such places, the most civil things a traveller meets with, but rarely seen here."

The inconvenience resulting from the want of handposts is certainly very great; but with respect to the latter part of the observation, the editor of these sheets must do the inhabitants of the forest the justice to say, that in walking over its various tracts, he never experienced the slightest deficiency in civility, but always found them ready to direct, or even to accompany him over its most intricate recesses.

The present state of the woodlands of this forest, and of modern plantation, is a subject of too much importance to be slightly

* Major Rooke also says, that *several* trees with this mark had been cut down, so that deception or mistake is scarcely possible.

slightly passed over, particularly at a period when our importation of timber for naval purposes is so much circumscribed. That England, by a little care and attention, might in fifty years be able to supply her own wants, in this article, and that without interfering with land fit for agricultural purposes, is a truth which we believe will not be denied; at least, whoever traverses this tract must confess that much of it which is unfit for cultivation, might be thus usefully employed. To shew what has, and what may be done, we shall therefore avail ourselves of a very accurate enumeration of the various modern plantations by major Rooke, to whose labours we have been so much indebted in the course of this delineation.

He tells us that so late as the beginning of the last century (1700) Sherwood was full of trees, and it was then one continued wood from Mansfield to Nottingham.

Since that time, the forest has been pretty much cleared; none of the ancient woods being left, except those which we have already mentioned: it is pleasing however to observe that efforts are now making to adorn this ancient forest, and that large plantations have been made, and are still making, in honour of our splendid naval victories, than which nothing can be more appropriate.

The duke of Portland's extensive plantations in the neighbourhood of Welbeck have a fine effect, and are already seen at a great distance; whilst the scraggy oaks called Thieves Wood, between Mansfield and Nottingham, have been filled up with young plants, which are now springing up to form an union with several others of the Portland plantations.

On that part of the forest called Cock's Moor, in the parish of Kirkby, and which is generally considered as the highest ground in the county, commanding the most extensive views in every direction, a plantation of forty acres has lately been formed: and forty-five acres have been sown with acorns and chesnuts in Norton forest in the same neighbourhood.

The second duke of Kingston planted two large clumps of evergreens,

evergreens, the one circular, the other square, on Hangerhill, at the west end of Birkland, which have succeeded very well.

The Manvers family have made many plantations about Thoresby since it came into their possession. One of these, partly forest trees and partly firs, has been called *Howe* Grove, in honour of the first of June: another at the eastern extremity of the *Assarts* adjoining to Thoresby park is named after the *Earl of St. Vincent:* and there is another on the boundary of Bedby forest, called *Duncan* wood, which with some steeps on the forest side of the park called Portland grove, and Bentinck border, form the whole of the Thoresby plantations on that side.

The extensive plantations at Rufford abbey, bordering on the forest, first begun by the late patriotic sir George Saville, have been greatly increased and improved by the present possessor.

The Right Hon. Frederic Montague has also in this part of the forest made several plantations, chiefly of oak; the first of these, on the left hand side of the road to Nottingham, is called the *Howe* plantation: the next is the *Spencer*; the third, about a mile from these on the right hand side of the road is the *Nelson*; contiguous to which is the *St. Vincent* plantation.

Adjoining is another plantation in honour of Sir John Borlase Warren's gallant conduct on the coast of Ireland, and during his command of the Western Squadron, and called the Warren plantation: and the *Duncan* plantation is formed on the right hand side of the coach-road to Papplewick: whilst on the most elevated spots in these plantations, handsome pillars are erected with suitable inscriptions.

In this western district, and on the left hand side of the road to Nottingham, just where the forest gives way to modern cultivation, Henry Cope, Esq. has erected a good house, and has also formed several extensive plantations, which are already become highly ornamental.

On the eastern limits of Sherwood, sir Richard Sutton, Bart. has made some very extensive plantations near Farnfield; and

in one of these, which encircles a hill, he has raised an elegant building in the Turkish style, which commands a most extended and delightful prospect.

Round Kirkby, some very large clumps of firs and larches, which are now of sufficient growth to be seen at a considerable distance, have been planted by Sir Richard Kaye, Bart. L. L. D. the late venerable dean of Lincoln, and rector of this parish.

Towards the northern limits we must notice several very conspicuous plantations formed by Earl Bathurst; also about fifty acres of oak and other forest trees planted by Robert Ramsden, Esq. of Carlton: nor must we omit the very extensive plantations of F. Foljambe, Esq. round Osberton, which with a patriotic spirit the owner is annually increasing.

Upon the whole, we agree with the Major in his conclusion, that from the laudable exertions of the resident nobility and gentry, there is reason to hope that the uninclosed parts of this extensive forest of Sherwood will again be embowered, and that succeeding generations will have occasion and opportunity to venerate the majestic oaks planted by their ancestors as monuments of British valour.

To give some adequate idea of the surface of the forest with respect to extent, we shall close with a sketch of the survey in 1609, with the more recent inclosures.

	Acres.
Ancient inclosures equal to	44839
—— woods	9486
—— wastes	35080
	89405
Clipston Park	1583
Beskwood Park	3672
Bulwell Park	326
Nottingham Park	129
	95115

Since

Since which time, the following inclosures have taken place.

		Acres.
In	1789 in Arnold Forest	2280
	1792 Basford	1158
	1794 Sutton in Ashfield	2608
	1795 Kirkby in ditto	1941
	1796 Lenton and Radford	261
		8248

acres in all, independent of subsequent inclosures, of which we have not been able to procure any estimate.

Having thus completed our delineation of the forest, it only remains for us to notice that famous, but legendary character,

ROBIN HOOD,

whom tradition records as having made this his principal haunt, and of whose popular and interesting story but little is known to any degree of certainty, though his exploits have been celebrated in ballad in every succeeding age.*

We shall here endeavour to collect all that has been written upon the subject, both legendary and historical; and though we cannot hope to throw any new light upon a tale so obscure as to be by some considered as entirely fabulous, we may at least so far gratify curiosity as to present it with all that a patient research can afford.

Mr. Throsby, in his addition to Thoroton, observes that the songs in the *Garland* which goes by his name, are simply and historically poetized, and have been the favourites of the lower classes perhaps ever since his time. We are very doubtful, however, of their having any particular claim to antiquity, at least in their present dress. Their internal evidence is not in favour of their antiquity; the style and turn of expression are not those of the twelfth century, nor of many centuries after-

* Some few particulars may be found in Percy's Reliques; but Sir John Hawkins considers the whole subject as enveloped in almost impenetrable uncertainty.

wards. One fact in particular is well worthy of attention, that they are free from *indecency*, which is not the case with the popular ballads even so late as the reign of Elizabeth; and this simple fact alone must place the date of their composition, or of their present dress, at a period not by any means remote. Indeed Mr. Thresby partly agrees with this opinion; for although he says that their remote antiquity cannot be doubted, he adds that they most likely have been varied agreeably to the phraseology of the different periods in which they have been recited. We further agree with him in his observation, that who were the authors of them, nobody knows; and that they were most probably written by various hands, as some of them have much more of the spirit of poetry than others.

That *Robin Hood* however was not a fabulous hero, there are sufficient reasons to prove, if it were necessary.

Camden calls him the gentlest thief that ever was; and Major says of him,

> "From wealthy abbots' chests, and churles abundant store,
> What often times he tooke, he shared amongst the poor:
> No lordly Bishop came in Robin's way,
> To him, before he went, but for his pass must pay:
> The widow in distress, he graciously relieved,
> And remedied the wrongs of many a virgin grieved."

As early as 1594 his story seems to have become a favourite subject for the drama; for in that year was printed "a pastoral comedy of Robin Hood and Little John." Again in 1624 we meet with "Robin Hood's pastoral May Games;" and in 1730 Robin Hood is performed as an opera at Bartholomew Fair in London. Shortly after came out "Robin Hood and his Crew of Soldiers," and in 1751 a musical entertainment under the name of "Robin Hood" came out at Drury-lane; besides which we have had "Robin Hood, or Sherwood Forest" of a recent date; all founded on the original *Garland*.

This collection of ballads is too well known to require the insertion of any extracts; but the events which it records dif-

fer

fer considerably from what is considered as the real historical biography of this extraordinary character, for such he certainly was.*

His legendary biography indeed seems made up of a tissue of exaggerations. It tells us that his father was a *forester*, and could send an arrow to a distance of two north country miles; and by a strange anachronism it describes his mother as niece to the famous Guy, the Saxon Earl of Warwick.

She is stated to have had a brother "a notable Squire" who lived at Gamewell Hill in this county, (perhaps corrupted from Gamelston, or Gamston) and who was anxious that Robin when a youth, should live with him. This, however, was prevented by a fondness for field sports, and for a rambling life, which led Robin to Tutbury in Staffordshire, not far from his birth place of Loxley, where he married a shepherdess under the poetical name of Clorinda, having been charmed by her dexterous manner of killing a buck in the forest.

Even at this early period of his life, his exploits against the foresters must have been frequent; for we are told that he killed no less than fifteen of them,† all of whom were buried in one row in one of the church yards at Nottingham. His fame was now so great that he had raised a force of nearly one hundred followers; and in a short time, his robberies and frolics, his kindness and charity to the poor, became the general theme

 of

* Drayton in the 26th song of his *Poly Olbion* gives some particulars of Robin and his maid Marian called *Clorinda* in the Garland.

† "A few days ago as some labouring men were digging in a garden at Foxlane near Nottingham, they discovered six human skeletons, intire, deposited in regular order side by side, and supposed to be part of the fifteen foresters that were killed by the daring outlaw Robin Hood.

"Near the above place anciently stood a church, built in the early ages of Christianity dedicated to St. Michael, and totally destroyed at the reformation; yet still the parishioners on certain times repair to this place for religious purposes, it being considered as consecrated ground. In this place at different times great quantities of human bones have been found, besides several Saxon and old English coins, &c. &c."

Gent's Magazine, April 1796.

of conversation, and produced a kind of friendly feeling towards him, although an outlaw. He appears by the Garland to have made his business his amusement, and to have been a merry thief, for he sports most jocularly with the characters and persons of a bishop, and the sheriff of the county, after robbing them of their purses.

Yet he was not always victorious; but seems to have been roughly handled at different times, by a tinker, a shepherd, and a friar, and several others.

He is next described as going to London, and being received at court, where he appeared in a scarlet dress, whilst his men were clad in *Lincoln green*; all of them wearing black hats and white feathers: a species of costume, by the bye, unknown in the reign of Richard the first, or of John, at which time he lived.

Soon after this, he is stated to have fought a desperate battle with Little John, or John Little, who was *seven* feet high, in which however he was worsted; but Little John notwithstanding joined the troop, and became his faithful friend.* After this the Garland states that a monk whom he sent for to let him blood, was the cause of his death, when all his bowmen fled to different countries to escape that justice which they could not otherwise avoid, now that their chief was gone.

Thus far the *Garland*; but the author of the "Anecdotes of Archery," who seems to have paid considerable attention in his research after the real events of this outlaw's life, gives us some other particulars which have a great semblance of authenticity. He describes him as at the head of two hundred strong, resolute men, and expert archers, ranging the forest of Sherwood, but not remaining there always.

Fuller

* There is a loose paper in *Ashmole's* hand writing in the Oxford museum, which says "the famous Little John (Robin Hood's companion) lies buried in Hathersedge church-yard, in the peak of Derbyshire; one stone at his head; another at his feet; and part of his bow hangs up in the church. A. D. 1612.

Fuller says that his principal residence was in Sherwood forest,* though he had another haunt near the sea, in the north riding of Yorkshire, where *Robin Hood's bay* still bears his name: and Charlton, in his "History of Whitby," observes that Robin, when closely pursued by the civil or military power, found it necessary to leave his usual haunts, retreated across the moors to Whitby in Yorkshire, where he always had in readiness some small fishing vessels, and in those putting off to sea, he looked upon himself as quite secure, and held the whole power of the English nation at defiance. The "Anecdotes of Archery" add, that the principal place of his resort at these times, and where his boats were generally laid up, was about six miles from Whitby, still known as Robin Hood's bay. It is then stated to be a tradition in that neighbourhood, that in one of these peregrinations, he went to dine with Richard the abbot of Whitby, accompanied by his friend Little John; when the abbot, who had often heard with wonder of their great skill in shooting with the long bow, requested after dinner that he might have a specimen of their dexterity. The two friends, in order to oblige their courteous entertainer, accompanied the abbot to the top of the abbey tower; from this elevation each of them shot an arrow which fell close by Whitby Laths. To preserve the memory of this transaction, and to mark the distance, the abbot set up a pillar on the spot where each arrow fell; the distance being more than a measured mile. That there were two pillars standing at Whitby a few years ago, is beyond a doubt, and that they were called after these two friends is equally certain; but that there is any real foundation for the story, we will not pretend to say.

The "Anecdotes" then proceed to state that he was outlawed, and a price set upon his head; and detail several stra-

* Ritson, who certainly has shewn indefatigable research in his "Robin Hood" in two volumes, says that Barnsdale forest in Yorkshire, and Plompton park in Cumberland, were also two of his favourite haunts.

tagems which were put in practice to ensnare him but in vain; for force he repelled by force, and stratagem by more skilful wiles. At length the force sent against him was so powerful that many of his followers fell, and the remainder having been forced for personal safety to desert him, he sought shelter and protection in the priory of Kirklees in Yorkshire, the prioress of which was his near relative. Here it is said old age, disappointment, and violent fatigue, brought on a disease which required venesection, when the monk who was called to perform the operation, either through ignorance or design, wounded an artery, and he bled to death.

Convinced that his end was approaching, and wishing to mark the spot for his last repose, he called for his bow, and letting fly two arrows, the first fell into the river Calder, but the second falling into the park, pointed out the place of sepulture. His death is said to have taken place on the eve of Christmas day 1274; and on his tomb, which still remains in Kirklees park, the following epitaph is said to have been inscribed by the prioress.

"Hear undernead dis latil steän,
Lais Robert Earl of Huntington;
Nea arcir ver az hie sa geud,
And pipl kauld im Robin Heud:
Liek ut|az as hi an is men
Vil England nivr see agen."*

The question now naturally arises, "who and what was this Robin Hood, earl of Huntingdon?†

That

* A drawing of this tomb is preserved by Gough in his Sepulchral Monuments, but we are told that the late Sir Samuel Armitage caused the stone to be taken up, and the ground below it to be dug a yard deep, which appeared never before to have been moved. It was thence supposed that this could not have been the place of his interment.

Mr. Ritson also on the authority of one of the Sloanian MSS. says that it was the *prioress* who bled him, and suffered him to bleed to death.

† Robin Hood has not been mentioned by any of the *clerical* writers of that

That no nobleman of that name ever existed in England, is beyond a doubt. John Le Scot, of the royal family of Scotland, was earl of Huntingdon in 1219. He died shortly after, and the title was extinct until 1337, when it was conferred on William de Clinton, which completely fills up the period of Robin Hood's life.

It has indeed been said that his name was *Head* or Hood, and that he was the son of a nobleman. Others again have been of opinion that in the unsettled reign of Richard the first, he was one of those youths that resented the inclosing of the forest, and being prosecuted by the officers of the crown, he was tempted both for his own security and out of revenge, to raise a band of archers, who acting under his command infested all the towns within the forest and in its vicinity, robbing all rich travellers, but never proceeding to acts of bloodshed, except in self-defence. It has been said too, that he was a great favourite in many parts of the country, in consequence of his hoarding up the different articles which he obtained in his course of robbery, until they amounted to a considerable stock, when he exposed them for sale at a particular place on the borders of the forest, where his sales were as regularly attended as a fair; and there is no doubt that his customers got their purchases pretty cheap, from whence arose the proverb of selling Robin Hood's penny worths.*

As

that period, which, Mr. Ritson, (instead of considering it as an argument against his existence,) is of opinion, was owing to the inveterate hatred and enmity which the outlaws foresters always shewed towards that order, who were also then the lawyers of the time.

* There is another proverb respecting him, recorded by Fuller in his Worthies of England.—"Many talk of Robin Hood who never shot out of his bow"—that is, adds this quaint historian, "many discourse (or prate rather) of matters wherein they have no skill or experience. This proverb is now extended all over England, though originally of Nottinghamshire extraction." Fuller then goes on to say "that he was an arch robber, and withal an excellent archer; though surely the poet gave a twang to the loose of his arrow; making

As far as regards historical fact, he is certainly mentioned in our different annals; and Rapin notices him so far as to say that about 1199 lived the famous Robin Hood with his companion Little John, who were said to infest Yorkshire with their robberies.

In the Harleian collection of MSS. also at the British Museum in No. 1233, p. 199, there is the following article, though we know not on what authority, nor by whom written.

"Robin Hood, accompanied with one called Little John, molested passengers on the high way, temp. Rich. I. of whom it is said that he was of noble blood, no lesse than an Earle. Having wasted his estate in riotous courses, very penury forced him to steale. The Kinge att last sett forth a proclamation to haue him apprehended; at which time it happened he fell ill at a nunnery in Yorkshire, called *Birkley's*,* and desiring there to be let blood, he was betrayed and made bleed to death."

But the question seems now pretty well set at rest, by Stukeley in his Palæographia Britannia, Vol. 2, p. 115, where he conjectures his true name to be *Fitz Ooth*, and that he was descended from a Norman chief of that name, who was lord of Kyme in Lincolnshire immediately after the conquest, and further that his mother was daughter of Payne Beauchamp and Roisia de Vere.

The Pedigree appears then to run in the following manner. Richard Fitz Gilbert or de Clare, earl of Brion in Normandy, married Alice daughter of Waltheof who was earl of Huntingdon in 1068 in right of his wife Judith niece to William the Conqueror. He had a son by this Alice, Robert Fitz Gilbert, whose daughter Roisia having married Gilbert de Gaunt, had a daughter Maud wife of Ralph Fitz Ooth, or *Ooth*, a Norman, and

ing him shoot one a cloth yard long, at full forty score mark, for compass never higher than the breast, and within less than a foot of the mark.

"But herein our author hath verified the proverb, talking at large of Robin Hood, in whose bow he never shot!"

* This is evidently an error in copying from some old MS. for *Kirklees*.

and lord of Kyme in Lincolnshire. Of this marriage was William Fitz Ooth, who was brought up by Robert de Vere earl of Oxford, and married a relative of his patron, the daughter of Paganel Beauchamp and Roisia de Vere of the Oxford family. Robert Fitz Ooth was the son by this match, and he certainly could thus prove a descent from the first earl of Huntingdon, though his *claim* to the title might not be so certain; and yet it must be acknowledged that he was at least *one of the representatives* of Waltheof the first earl, by his daughter Alice; a claim of some importance when it is recollected that Waltheof leaving no son, the title of Huntingdon, after his death, was carried by another daughter *Maud* to her husband Simon St. Liz, who was the second earl, but left no issue; and Maud marrying to her second husband David, prince, and afterwards king, of Scotland, he became third earl of Huntingdon in right of his marriage; but this line failed in John Le Scot who was the tenth earl of Huntingdon, but died without issue in 1337, from which time until 1337, when the title was conferred as a new grant on William de Clinton, it appears to have been considered as extinct.

Thoresby, who, in his additions to Thoroton, seems to have taken a very comprehensive view of this subject, observes that under these circumstances, the title may actually have been claimed by Robert Fitz Ooth; and there is great weight in a subsequent observation where he says, it has been supposed that he might have been driven to his predatory course of life, in consequence of the troubled state of Henry the second's reign, or perhaps adopted it, being dissatisfied with the refusal of his claims, particularly as his father William Fitz Ooth might have been implicated in the consequences of the rebellion of the king's eldest son, the prince Henry; for in the rebellion the earl of Ferrers took the prince's side, and he was lord of *Loxley*, which has been said to be the birth place of Robin Hood. It may also not be irrelevant to observe, that the fact of his being something more than a mere robber is evident from the considerable force which he was able to raise and to keep

together, and which must have been much greater than is mentioned in the legendary ballads, as he was able to resist for such a length of time all the attempts of the royal army, or of the sheriff, to arrest or even to dislodge him.

We have thus detailed all the evidence which has been collected, or is likely ever to be collected, respecting this extraordinary character, and must now leave our readers to draw their own conclusions on the subject.

The regular division now leads us to the

TOWN OF NOTTINGHAM;

The approach to which, on any side, is particularly striking to the traveller; and it may be justly said that there is perhaps no town in the empire which appears under such a variety of aspects as this does from its different points of view. The tourist who arrives by the London road, cannot fail being pleased on descending the hill by Plumptree, to see the fertile vale of Trent bounded by the august rock on which it stands, with the castle on a precipitous hill to the left, the long range of buildings gradually sinking into the plain on his right, and the whole crowned by the graceful tower of St. Mary's. Should he enter by the eastern side from the Newark road, the whole mass of building is then foreshortened, the tower of St. Mary's and the castle are nearly in one, whilst the long line of the Trent and Leen bridges raise ideas of its size and importance which its apparently circumscribed limits would not otherwise have justified. If he comes from the north, from Mansfield, the tower of St. Mary's, still preeminent, is the only object which marks his approach to the habitation of gregarious man, until he rises the hill above the race ground, when the whole view bursts upon his astonished sight, as if by enchantment; the whole town lies at his feet; he sees the Lene and the Trent, as if on a map; and beyond these the vale of Belvoir in almost unlimited

NOTTINGHAM,
from the North Road

limited extent, skirted partly by the Leicestershire hills, seems like a new world starting into existence. It is, in short, impossible for any man of taste or feeling to view the scene without experiencing emotions that he must allow to be indescribable—emotions such as the Jewish lawgiver may have felt on Pisgah's mount. Then the approach on the western road from Derby, is completely different from the others. On arriving at Wollaton park-gate, the town is just seen; all that is descried is then in a commanding situation, and this is perhaps the point of view which impresses a stranger with the highest ideas of the place: on the right, the castle and its commanding cliffs boldly starting from the verdant swells in the park; in the centre the barracks appearing to form a town of themselves; and to the left, a number of windmills which immediately excite the idea of a Dutch or Flemish town. To the north he looks down upon the forest, with its foreground flat, but in high cultivation; around are numerous villas, and respectable manufacturer's country retreats; on all sides the country appears rich, well cultivated, and populous; and the noise of the stocking frames is heard in most of the houses.

The sounds of industry on all sides present indeed a different picture from that drawn by a facetious traveller, sometime in the seventeenth century, who, in his journey to the north, says,

> "Thence to Nottingham where rovers,
> Highway riders, Sherwood drovers,
> Like old Robin Hood and Scarlet,
> Or like Little John his varlet;
> Here and there they show them doughty
> In cells and woods to get their booty."*———

At the same time it must be confessed, that although the entrance on the western side is open and airy, yet the long line of street filled with low manufacturing cottages does not impress

* Vide Drunken Barnaby's Journey.

press the traveller with any high ideas of either the elegance or comfort of the town itself.

Nottingham, we are told by Camden, and his whole subsequent train of copyists, has the honour of giving a name to the county at large. This is evidently softened from the Saxon "Snottingham," an appellation given it on account of the subterranean caverns and passages hollowed out in ancient times for houses and retreats under those craggy rocks on the south side, hanging over the river Lene. An old etymologist (Asserius) informs us that the Saxon name may be latinized into "Speluncarum Domus," or the house of caverns, and that if translated into British, it would be "Tui Ogo Banc," a name which however we have no authority to say was ever given to this place.

There is perhaps no town in the kingdom, whose origin is hid in greater obscurity than Nottingham, and there is certainly none which has given rise to a greater variety of conjectures.

Stukely says,* one may easily guess Nottingham to have been an ancient town of the Britons. As soon as they had proper tools, he adds, they fell to work upon the rocks, which every where offer themselves so commodiously to make houses in, and he doubts not that there was a considerable collection of dwellings of this sort.

Dr. Thoroton† seems to consider all memorials of its origin as entirely lost; and places no confidence whatever in John Rouse, a monk of Warwick, and canon of Osney, who, in his history addressed to king Henry the seventh, tells a long tale of the antiquity of Nottingham 980 years before the Christian era;‡ at which

* Stukeley's Itinerary, page 49. † Thoroton's Survey of Notts.

‡ Leland in his Collectanea Vol. 3, p. 43, gives us some fragments from a Chronicle which he considers as the work of an unknown or uncertain writer, who seems to have written an epitome of Geoffrey of Monmouth, and to have inserted many things which are not to be found even in Geoffrey's work, and whose authority is certainly thus rendered, *if possible*, more doubtful. Here we are told of king Ebraucus, who built on the *dolorous* hill that which is now Nottingham;

which time, according to him, king Ebranc built a town on the banks of Trent, and partly on this "Dolorous" hill, a name which it had acquired from the extreme grief of the Britons, in consequence of a great slaughter of them by king Humber, and which took place here in the reign of king Albanact. For this piece of original secret history, indeed, the reverend monk does not favour us with any authority; nor can we help thinking it a piece of unnecessary labour in Dering,* in his history of the town, being at the trouble of proving that the Britons being little better than savages at Cæsar's coming, which was only half a century before the commencement of the Christian æra, so it was not likely that they should have been more civilised 900 years earlier. Dr. Dering however, like other writers, indulges himself also in conjecture; but as there is some appearance of plausibility in his opinion, we shall slightly notice its substance. He conceives then that the most which can be supposed with a due regard to probability, is that considering the convenient situation of that part of the forest of Sherwood, in the immediate vicinity of the site of the present town, it is not unlikely that several colonies of Britons had planted themselves hereabouts, where they were sheltered from the inclemency of the most prevalent winds of the winter season, accommodated with the convenience of a southern aspect, and with plenty of water. Nay, like Dr. Stukely, he imagines it highly probable, that as soon as these people were provided with tools for the purpose, finding in these parts a yielding rock, they might improve their habitations by making their way into the main rock, and framing to themselves convenient apartments in it, and that perhaps long before the Romans came into this neighbourhood.

Nottingham; and immediately after it is stated that *Lucius* son of Helena caused four cities to be founded, one of *which* was Nottingham. Upon the whole; it seems that the Monkish writers were ignorant of, or inattentive to, that wholesome adage, that people of a certain *habit* ought to have good memories.

* Dering's Town of Nottingham.

bourhood. He seems to lay the greater stress upon this conjecture, in consequence of the discovery made by some workmen employed by lord Middleton in 1740, to level a deep and narrow way between the two hills called the Sand-hills on the Derby road approaching to Chapel Bar; for when these workmen had removed a good deal of the sandy part of the hills, they met here and there with excavations which (upon clearing away the sand from them,) appeared to form the partition walls of several rooms, of different altitudes, cut out of the solid rock. These, the Doctor thought, had no marks of being of Roman workmanship, and he therefore considers them as British. These remains he even considers as of higher antiquity than the excavations in the rock on which Nottingham stands; and having roundly asserted, (which may indeed be true) that the whole rock on which the town is built is so undermined and hollowed out, that it is almost a question, whether the solid contents of what is erected on the top would fill up the cavities under ground, he comes to the conclusion that the sand of the place in question was brought from the Nottingham excavations, and that it would not have been lodged upon the site of these chambers if they had not been in a ruinous state, and therefore of considerable antiquity. He adds that there are other sand hills about the town where the same discoveries have been made, which have given rise to a tradition that the ancient town of Nottingham stood further to the northward; and is of opinion that these straggling habitations formed no part of the town in the Saxon times, being considerably without that wall which Edward the elder constructed for the defence of Nottingham.

The Doctor then adverts to a story of *Coilus*, a British king, having been buried here in the year of the world 3832, a period which in ancient chronology falls in between the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, and the destruction of Troy: but though possessed of all the prejudices natural to a local historian, he acknowledges that even this is no more a proof, if true, of the antiquity of Nottingham, than that the certainty of some Indian huts

huts having stood a thousand years ago on the present scites of New York, or Philadelphia, would carry their antiquity back beyond the days of William Penn.

After all these conjectures we can only say that the only thing certain is, that there is no authentic history extant which gives any account of the *first* formation of the caverns of our ancient *Troglodytes*; we may, therefore, safely infer that they are anterior to all authentic history, and, of course, older than the time of the Romans. How far they may be carried *beyond* that period is, however, perhaps for ever hid in obscurity; but if we might be allowed to add *one* conjecture to the many already in existence, we should certainly venture to *suppose* that they could not have been made, before the island of Britain was *inhabited*, though probably very soon after; and we may venture to predict that *when* the one era is settled precisely by conjecturing antiquaries, the other may then be guessed at within a century or two! We come now to a period of Topographical history, which might be supposed attended with few difficulties; but the real antiquary seems possessed of the property of the Cuttle fish, which throws out such a quantity of *ink* around it, that it is impossible to trace it in the obscurity. When the emperor Antoninus drew up his Itinerary, through the island of Britain, he seems to have been anxious to settle both the names of places, and their distances, with great precision; unfortunately, however, not being gifted with prophetic powers, he has not told us, what these places would be called in succeeding ages, and there are now as many disputes *upon the road*, where the Romans were, and where they were not, that a plain jog trot traveller can scarcely get along. Even round this very spot, now under examination, two very learned men, Dr. Gale, and Mr. Baxter, have *kicked up such a dust*, that if they had both travelled the same road, the traveller in search of truth would have been blinded; they seem *not* to have travelled the same road, however, and therefore there is a difference of *twenty miles* in their distances; or perhaps, for a more

logical *therefore*, the difference in their distances, is a proof of the difference in their routes.

The original Itinerary states from *Duroliponte*, to *Durobrivis* 35 miles; thence to *Causennis* 30; thence to *Lindum* 26; and thence to *Agelocum* 14 miles. Now this has been modernized by Dr. Gale, who preserves the Roman distance, as correct, and considers *Duroliponte*, as Gormanchester, near Huntingdon; *Durobrivis*, as Brig Casterton; *Causennis*, as Nottingham; *Lindum*, as Lincoln; and *Agelocum*, as Littleborough.

Mr. Baxter, however, contradicts this, and asserts *Durobrivis* to be Caster, though the distance is only 22 miles; *Causennis*, he calls Grantham, though the distance is only 24; by his account the distance to *Lindum* is two miles short of the Roman Itinerary; and, though he adds a mile from *Lindum* to *Agelocum*, he is still 20 miles short of the whole distance. For Antoninus and Gale agree in a distance of 105 miles, whilst Baxter can only produce 85.

Much ink has been spilled, nay wasted, on both sides of the question; we shall, therefore, add as little as possible, to the quantity; it is necessary, however, to state, that, although the supporters of Mr. Baxter assert that there have never been any Roman coins, or urns, discovered at Nottingham, as is invariably the case at all their acknowledged stations; yet as there is sufficient proof, that there were Roman stations within sight of the rock on which Nottingham stands, it is not likely that a place whose situation was so commanding, and so capable of defence, would have escaped their notice. But Dr. Gale brings further proof in support of his opinion, that *Causennis* was our modern Nottingham; for he shews clearly, that Causennis, or Caufennis, were the Roman changes of the word *Caven*, from whence, in various places, were the names of "Gofennis," "Gobannium," &c. *Caven* being the ancient British for a cluster of rocks, and *Kaff*, or *Kavu*, in the same language, signifying a cavern.

Dr. Gale, indeed, perhaps goes too far, in supposing that the excavations

excavations are Roman; if they had been so, it is not probable that they would have had a name latinized from the British; for there is no instance whatever, on record, in which the Romans had adopted British words for the names of places of their own erection. That the caverns existed, therefore, before the Roman settlement seems beyond a doubt; it is still probable, however, that the Romans may have availed themselves of the then existing caves, and may even have added others.

A period of greater certainty begins in the seventh century, at which time it is allowed by all historians, that Nottingham was a considerable place, and had a strong tower, for its defence; and it is certain, that, during the Saxon heptarchy, it had the name of Snottingham, from *Snottinga*, signifying caves, and *Ham*, a home or dwelling place, or perhaps used with a plural signification. It is Dr. Dering's opinion, that this Saxon name was doubtless given to it, by that people, from the condition they found the neighbourhood in, before they themselves made improvements by building. It then belonged to the kingdom of Mercia, and a part of that kingdom took afterwards, in king Alfred's reign, its name from this town, Snottingham Scyre.

It is rather curious, that all the learned investigators of the origin of Nottingham should have overlooked a particular circumstance, which seems to throw a new light upon its state, in the Saxon times, and perhaps, for some ages previous to them. If the Saxon origin, of the name of Nottingham, is correct, may we not suppose also, that *Snottenga*, or *Snottengaton*, may have been corrupted into *Snenton*, or *Sneinton*. If, then, there were two places existing in the Saxon times, by the names of Snottinga*ham*, and Snottenga*ton*, it is a very probable conjecture, that the spot designated by the appellative of *ton*, was more considerable than that which had only the adjunct of *ham*, inasmuch as a town is larger than a village, or hamlet. That such was the origin of the name of *Sneinton*, now a village adjoining to Nottingham, seems almost beyond a doubt, when we

consider that it possesses extensive caverns, of an antiquity equal to that of the latter place, or at least apparently so: and it is much to be regretted that the able antiquaries of past days were not in possession of such a clue to conjecture. 'Tis not for us to venture further into a subject so capable of extension; but we may be allowed to express a hope that some local antiquary will be induced to investigate it, as far as probability will authorize his research.

From the period of the union of the Saxon heptarchy, Nottingham seems to have increased in consequence. In Edward the Confessor's reign, immediately preceding the Norman conquest, there were one hundred and seventy three burgesses, and nineteen villeins, in this borough; and Earl *Tosti* had lands and houses here.

But, perhaps, the proper era from whence we should commence our view of the rise and progress of this place, is that period when the kingdom was settled, after the Norman accession, and the survey of Domesday-book, was made. From this register it appears that Hugh, the sheriff, found here one hundred and twenty dwelling houses, of which the sheriff himself possessed thirteen; Roger de Builly had eleven; William Peverell the earl, son of Ralph Peverell, who came in with the Norman, had forty-eight tradesmen's houses, which brought him in thirty shillings per annum rent, * seven knights', and thirteen gentlemen's houses, besides eight borders, forming, in the whole, his honour of Peverell, in the town; Ralph de Burun had twelve gentlemen's houses, and one merchant's house; one Guilbert, had four houses; Ralph Fitzherbert, eleven houses; Goisfrid de Anselyn, twenty one houses; Acadus

* It is curious to contrast this sum with the value of land in Nottingham, at the present day. In 1811, the ground for some new buildings, in a street, at the end of Smithy Row, was sold at the rate of 9*l.* per square yard; so that three square yards, without buildings, in the year 1811, would yield as much in interest of money, as forty-eight houses did, in rent, in the year 1086!

Acadus the Priest, two houses; in the croft of the Priest there were sixty houses; Richard Tresle, had four houses; and in the borough ditch, seventeen houses, and other six houses; all amounting to two hundred and seventeen.

The compiler of "Magna Britannia," published about a century ago, is of opinion, that the reason why we find no more inhabitants, in this borough, is because many of the houses were deserted, in consequence of the ravages, that took place, in the Norman conquest; and the number was certainly diminished, since the Confessor's reign, for then there were, as we have before noticed, one hundred and ninety-two burgesses, and villeins, though, when the first Norman survey was taken, there were only one hundred and thirty-six men dwelling there, which number, at the Domesday survey, was reduced to one hundred and twenty. About this time, however, great encouragement seems to have been given to resident burgesses, (and we may, perhaps, from hence date the origin of the modern burgess lands,) for the burgesses had six carucats to plow, and twenty borders, and fourteen carucats, * or plough lands besides. They were also wont to fish in the Trent, but complained that they were then prohibited.

At this period, also, the church, with all things belonging to it, was of 100 shillings annual value.

Having thus investigated its origin, we shall now proceed to take a short view of its general

History, premising first, from Dering, that Nottingham can claim, as a town of note, the ageof 900 years; as a considerable borough, 761; as a mayor's town, 518, being only a century posterior to the metropolis; as a parliamentary borough, during which it has constantly sent two representatives, 521;

 and

* This must have been a considerable quantity, for the carucat, or hide, was six-score acres of arable land, together with pasture, and meadow, with barns, stables, and dwellings, for such a number of men, and beasts, as were necessary for agricultural purposes.

and as a county in itself, a thing very unusual for *boroughs*, a space of 353 years, up to the year 1812.

The first great historical event, we find connected with the place, was in the year 852, when the Danes, in the course of their frequent ravages, came to this place, in which they were immediately afterwards besieged by Buthred, the Mercian king; but, with so little prospect of success, as the Danes had possessed themselves of a strong tower on the scite of the present castle, that he was obliged to send for assistance to Ethelred, king of the West Saxons, and Alured his brother, who, having collected a large army, proceeded towards Nottingham, and offered the invaders battle. This, however, they thought proper to decline, when the Saxon chiefs attempted to batter down the walls, but even this, they were unable to perform; and at length the Danes, starved out perhaps, agreed to conclude a peace, and return home under their leaders *Hinguar* and *Hubba*. From this time, until 940, the Danes were very troublesome to Nottingham, and the surrounding parts of Mercia; for, having landed with a large army, and got military possession of all the northern parts of Britain, they left a large force there, and proceeded to Nottingham, which they took with facility, and fixed their winter quarters there. From this they were again driven by the Saxons; but again returned, and remained until the middle of the tenth century, when king Edmund made a final reconquest of the place.

William the Conqueror came here in 1068, and soon after founded the castle.

In the troublesome times of Stephen's reign, Ralph Paynell, who was governor of the castle, and in the interest of Henry afterwards Henry the second, invited the earl of Gloucester in 1140, to take possession of the town. It is recorded that the town being thus easily taken, was plundered, and the inhabitants killed, or burnt in the churches, to which they had fled for safety. It is also stated by Stow * that one of the richest

* Stow's Summary, p. 135.

est of the inhabitants was forced by a party of the robbers to shew them where his treasure lay; he, accordingly, took them into a low cellar, from whence he escaped, whilst they were intent on plunder; and, having shut the doors, set fire to his house, in consequence of which, not only they were burnt, but the whole town was set in flames. Nottingham met with the same misfortunes only thirteen years afterwards; for being taken by Henry, in 1153, we are told, by Leland, that the garrison retiring from the city to the castle set fire to the town on their evacuating it.*

It has, however, been otherwise asserted, that this conflagration was caused by the Earl of Ferrers, in the contests between Henry the second and his son Henry, who came suddenly, with a good number of horsemen to Nottingham, which Reginald de Lucy had then in keeping for the king; and, having taken it, burnt the town, slew the inhabitants, and divided their goods amongst his soldiers.

After this, from whatever cause it may have proceeded, the town of Nottingham appears to have lain in ruins, until the kingdom became quiet by the death of Prince Henry, whom his father had been so imprudent as to cause to be crowned during his own life time: the inhabitants then, having some prospect of protection for their lives and property, began to make great exertions to restore it to its former consequence, and the king, in order to make them amends for what they had suffered from their loyalty, not only gave them every encouragement, and assistance, in the rebuilding of it, but also granted them a *new* charter, in which he confirmed all those free customs which they had enjoyed in the reign of Henry the first. This is a convincing proof, that Nottingham had been a corporation, for a considerable time, before the grant of this *new* charter; and it is, with great probability, supposed, that they had enjoyed a market, and paid a farm rent to the crown, some time previous. John earl of Mortoyn, Henry's younger

* Leland Collect. vol. 3. p. 319.

son, afterwards king, procured them some further privileges on being made earl of Nottingham; and by a new charter, which he confirmed on coming to the throne, granted all the advantages, which his father and great grandfather had bestowed upon them, together with a merchant's guild, or fraternity.

During the contests between Richard the first and his brother John, Nottingham changed hands several times; and, on the king's return from his captivity, this castle held out a siege of several days, though the king himself besieged it in person.

Soon after, Richard called a parliament here, in which he demanded judgement against John and his accomplices: and the parliament immediately issued summonses for John, and the barons, his friends, to appear in forty days, to answer all complaints, under pain of forfeiture on the part of John, and for the others, to stand such censure, as might be awarded against them, by the parliament. In consequence of non-compliance, earl John incurred the forfeiture, but was soon restored by his brother; however, after coming to the crown, we find that, in his contest with the barons, an attempt was made to deprive him of this place, by the "army of God, and the Holy Church," as it was then called, but without success.

On a subsequent occasion in 1212, John was so pressed, that, having received repeated intelligence of a plot against him, he distrusted even the officers about his person, and relying solely on the loyalty of this town, and of some foreign archers, disbanded his army, and retired here to shut himself up in the castle.

In 1330, the well known event of the seizure of Mortimer, earl of March, by the young king Edward the third, took place in the castle; but that will be treated of more fully in another place.

Seven years afterwards a parliament was called together for very important purposes, and Nottingham has the honour of being the spot, from whence emanated laws that were the first foundation

foundation of England's greatness, as a manufacturing country: for here it was enacted, that whatsoever cloth-workers of Flanders, or of other countries, would dwell, and inhabit in England, should come quietly, and peaceably, and the most convenient places should be assigned to them, with great liberties and privileges, and the king would become surety for them, until they should be able to support themselves by their several occupations. The same parliament also passed that patriotic law, that no person should wear any foreign made cloths, with the exception of the royal family: they also prohibited the exportation of English wool.

A curious attempt to infringe on the liberty of election took place here, in the reign of Richard the second, which is well worthy of notice. In 1386, the marquis of Dublin, the royal favourite, having been dismissed in consequence of the remonstrances of Parliament, he, and some of his adherents, soon after procured access to the king, and was, in a few weeks, accompanied by the misguided monarch into Wales; where it was privately settled, that a plan for the assumption of arbitrary power should be put in force, and that the patriotic barons, the duke of Gloucester, the earls of Arundel, Derby, Warwick, and Nottingham, should be the first victims, not only for the purpose of revenge, but of security. In order to insure the success of their plan, it was determined that the King should raise an army to keep those barons in check, and that he should then call a parliament, the elections for which should be so managed as to have none but the friends of the favourites summoned or elected, so that there would be no difficulty in passing any law which might be proposed. No sooner was every thing prepared, than Richard, with his favourites and their friends, proceeded to Nottingham, where all the sheriffs, and all the judges, were sent for, together with many of the principal citizens of London; to these, when assembled, the monarch communicated his design of proceeding with an army to chastise the noblemen, already mentioned, and demanded of

the sheriffs, what number of troops they could raise immediately. He then told them to permit no representatives to be chosen for the new parliament, that were not in the list, which he should deliver to them himself; but the sheriffs immediately answered, that it was not possible to execute his orders; for the people were in general so partial to those noblemen, that it would be difficult to levy an army against them; and they concluded by stating, that it would be still more difficult to deprive the people of their right of freely electing their representatives in parliament.

The judges, however, were neither so scrupulous, nor so patriotic, as the sheriffs; for they answered to the queries put to them, "that the King was above the law;" yet, when required to sign this opinion, they endeavoured to evade it, until forced by the menaces of the court party.* Notwithstanding this forced submission of the judges, Richard found it impossible to do any thing at Nottingham, and therefore returned to London.

Nottingham was afterwards, in 1461, the rendezvous of Edward the fourth, where he collected his troops, and caused himself to be proclaimed King, immediately after landing at Ravenspur in Yorkshire.

In 1485, Richard the third marched from Nottingham towards Bosworth-field, in order to decide the fate of England in his fatal contest with Henry the seventh; and Henry the seventh, two years afterwards, (in 1487) held his council of war at Nottingham previous to the battle of Stoke, which we shall have occasion to notice more fully in another place.

We must not neglect to notice an extraordinary tempest, which took place here, in the reign of Queen Mary, and which is thus stated by Stow, in his Chronicle. He says, that on the 7th of

* 'Tis almost unnecessary to state to those acquainted with English history, that these judges were sir Robert Tresilian, lord chief justice of the king's bench, who was afterwards hanged at Tyburn: Sir Robert Belknap, chief justice of the common pleas; Sir John Holt; Sir Roger Fulthorp; Sir William de Burgh; and John Lockton, Sergeant at law.

7th of July, 1558, "was within a mile of Nottingham, a marvellous tempest of thunder, which, as it came through two towns, (Lenton and Wilford,) beat down all the houses and churches, the bells were cast to the outside of the church-yards, and some webs of lead 400 feet, into the field, writhen like a pair of gloves. The river Trent running between the two towns, the water with the mud in the bottom, was carried a quarter of a mile, and cast against the trees; the trees were pulled up by the roots, and cast twelve-score foot off. There fell some hailstones that were 15 inches about."

In 1642, Charles the first set up his standard here, which will be noticed more fully in another place. It is unnecessary to recapitulate all the occurrences connected with this event, as they may be seen at large both in Dering and Thoroton. It is sufficient to say, that the town being soon after in possession of the Parliament, the government was entrusted to Colonel Julius Hutchinson, whose memoirs have lately been published, and who, however he might have erred in his politics, has yet the merit of being true to the side he had chosen. In 1643, he seems to have been strongly tempted to deliver it up to the King's friends, by the earl of Newcastle, who offered him the sum of 10,000*l.* and promised also a grant of the castle and its government, to him and his heirs, which he refused, according to his own account transmitted to the Parliament. During the next year, 1644, there seems to have been a paltry kind of skirmishing carried on between the royal garrison of Newark, and that of Nottingham; for we are told by Whitlock, who is copied by Dering, that colonel Hutchinson met with a party of the people from Newark, when he slew their captain, and took 50 prisoners; and that he and his party, on the next day, took more of them consisting of twenty gentlemen, and officers, together with sixty of their horse. Shortly after a detachment of the Newark garrison, having come rather too near to Nottingham, to levy contributions, and to take some prisoners, they were pursued, by a party of the Nottingham troops,

troops, and escaped, with the loss of all their prisoners, and five or six of their own party; but the Nottingham men, following too close, were, in their turn, assailed by fresh troops, their prisoners taken from them, and also two officers, and about thirty horsemen.

Some differences seem to have taken place, between the garrison and the town committee in 1645, so that the Parliament were obliged to refer them to a committee of both houses; a measure evidently necessary, as, during these intestine broils in the town, a party of horse, from Newark, had stormed a fort upon Trent bridge, and became masters of it, after putting about forty men to the sword.

But it is unnecessary to recapitulate all the events of that time, we shall, therefore, just notice that after the restoration, in 1682, a surreptitious surrender of the charter was procured by the ministers of Charles the second, which occasioned great disturbances. A new charter was granted, but even this was taken away in 1687, by king James the second, by a writ of *quo warranto*.

A very copious account of the subsequent events will be found in Dering; but it is not irrelevant to add, that it was at Nottingham the meeting took place between the earl of Devonshire, and several other noblemen, in order to promote the glorious revolution of 1688, when a stop was put to the insidious attempt to introduce popery into the kingdom, and that too by the assistance of the Dissenters; for such certainly was James's plan, notwithstanding all that has been asserted to the contrary, by some modern whigs.* The internal quiet of the kingdom, from this period, until the present day, (with one or two slight exceptions,) leaves us little more to record of past events, respecting Nottingham: we shall, therefore, merely briefly

* In this we beg leave to be understood, as recording an historical fact, without reference to political or to party opinions; two things which ought certainly to be avoided in a work of this kind.

briefly notice some late occurrences, which fall with most propriety under this general head.

Throsby tells us, that in the year 1777, as some workmen were clearing away the rubbish at a place called Derry Mount, they discovered several human bones, which appeared in a perfect state. In a scull, there was the appearance of a bullet-hole; a dagger likewise was found with the skeletons, which were five in number, and a piece of silver coin, the legend not legible. But from a tradesman's token, of the date of 1609, it was supposed, that those people might have fallen in some skirmish during the civil wars, or at least during the Protectorate.

A most extraordinary natural phenomenon took place here in 1785, which has been considered as perhaps one of the largest water-spouts, ever seen in this country. It happened on the first of November. In the morning the sky was clear; but the preceding day had been overcast, and some claps of thunder heard in the evening, though at a considerable distance. About eleven in the morning it became overcast like the former day, and rained heavily at intervals, until the afternoon, the wind being first at south-west, and then falling calm. At four in the afternoon, the water-spout was first seen, proceeding from a dense cloud, apparently about a quarter of a mile to the southward of the Trent, and moving slowly towards it; and it was remarked, that the branches of the trees, over which it passed, were bent downwards to the ground.

As the cloud came nearer to the river, it appeared to be strongly attracted by it, and when it crossed did not seem more than 30 or 40 feet from the surface of the water, which was violently agitated, and flew upwards to a great height in every direction. Some persons who saw it from the Trent bridge, then only about 300 yards distant, mistook it at first for a column of thick smoke rising from a warehouse by the Trent side, which they supposed to be on fire; but they were soon undeceived, and now beheld with astonishment a large black inverted cone, terminating nearly in a point, and in which they

they perceived very plainly, as they afterwards said, a whirling spiral motion, whilst a rumbling noise like thunder was heard at a distance. By the description which those people gave of it, (and indeed they may be supposed to have examined it coolly, whilst they supposed it to be only a column of smoke,) the middle of the cone appeared nearly twenty feet in diameter. After passing the river, it ascended slowly and majestically in a N. E. direction; and nothing coming within the limits of its electric powers, until it came over Snenton, it there first began its devastation, taking the thatch from several barns and cottages, and tearing up some apple trees by the roots, one of which was four feet in circumference, yet was broken short off near the ground, and the body and branches carried several yards. A barn near 30 yards long was levelled with the ground; the adjoining house was unroofed, and otherwise much shattered; a sycamore in the yard, which measured nearly two yards in circumference, was torn up; in short, nothing could resist the impetuosity of its action; and the rain falling heavily at the time, joined to the roaring noise of the spout, and aided by the *novelty* of the phenomenon, produced amongst the spectators a scene of terror and confusion which, they acknowledged, was not easy to be described.

It was stated also, that in a tavern in the outskirts of the village, it tore off part of the roof, whilst the people within were almost all of them seized with a painful sensation in the head, which lasted some hours: and the spout in passing over the adjoining close where a number of people were collected, it being the usual statute for hiring servants, afforded rather a ludicrous scene wherein hucksters, stalls, baskets, &c. were all thrown into confusion, and some of the people hurled with great violence against the hedge, but happily without any serious accident. One boy indeed, about 14 years of age, is said to have been actually carried over the hedge into an adjoining field, but without being injured.

Some flashes of light were observed in its passing the fields;

and as the cloud passed over the hill, opposite to the tavern, the spout was observed to contract and expand alternately, as if it had been attracted, and repelled, by some extraneous force. It continued in all about twenty minutes.* We have been more particular in noticing this phenomenon, because it seems described with more accuracy than any similar one which has happened in the kingdom.

It is always unpleasant, to record the ebullitions, and outrages, of party, whatever may have been their original principles; yet we cannot wholly pass over the events, in the year 1794; but shall avoid all chance of misapprehension, by a quotation from Mr. Throsby, who seems the most moderate of the local historians that have noticed these unhappy disturbances, and to have confined himself to historical fact, without animadversion. He commences with the pleasing observation, that this year was marked by the loyalty of the inhabitants of the town and county, in support of the constitution, and defence of the empire, in the raising of four troops of gentlemen yeomanry and cavalry, the ranks of which were filled up with the most respectable of the inhabitants in general, and the whole under the command of A. H. Eyre, Esq. of Grove: the Nottingham company having Ichabod Wright, Esq. for their captain. On this occasion he remarks, that none shewed more loyalty, in the way of subscription, than a club in Nottingham, called the loyal society.

Unfortunately, however, in July of the same year, a serious disturbance took place, in consequence of some people, "evil affected," as it has been said, shewing signs of pleasure on the arrival of some unpleasant news from the continent, and wearing in their hats, emblems, &c. A party of royalists in consequence (or, as another local historian describes them, a number of violent politicians under *pretence* of loyalty,) ducked several disaffected people in the river; but not stopping there, the mob at night set fire to some outworks of Mr. Dennison's cotton

* Vide Gent's Mag. for 1785.

cotton-mill, in which some of those considered as *Jacobins* had taken shelter, and from whence it has been asserted that some shot were fired. The vigilance of the magistrates and their friends, however, assisted by the light horse from the barracks, prevented further mischief than the burning of some premises, not of any extraordinary value: but the next day still continued as a day of ducking and disorder, until the popular ebullition subsided.

Mr. Throsby, also records a great flood, which took place here, on the 7th of February 1795, after a severe week's frost, and in which, by an accurate estimate, upwards of one million of damage was done by the Trent alone. Many families, both in the town, and indeed in all the villages bordering on that river, were great sufferers, from the loss of cattle drowned, and from the damage done to their goods. The new gravel road to the Trent bridge, which had been heightened and improved at different times at a very considerable expense, and the beautiful canal cut, which forms a collateral branch with the river Lene, received such immense fractures, as to require an immense expense for their repair; and the new Lene bridge, with its accompanying arches formed to draw the water off the road, was also materially injured.

From that period, nothing remarkable has happened at Nottingham until the unfortunate disturbances amongst the stocking manufacturers in the early part of 1812, and a short time preceding; but the occurrences are too recent to require description, and it is to be hoped, that the parliamentary regulations which are taking place, whilst these sheets are in the press, will prevent the necessity of any further notice. We shall now proceed to the consideration of the

LOCAL TOPOGRAPHY, of Nottingham, which the author of the tour through Great Britain very justly states to be, one of the most pleasant and beautiful towns in England, from its situation, even if its various buildings were not to be taken into the account. We have already noticed the various circumstances, connected

connected with its *approach* from different quarters, and shall now slightly notice its

SITUATION and EXTENT, the former of which is perhaps as favourable as can well be imagined. With respect to its relative situation to the kingdom in general, Dr. Dering very justly observes that it lies almost in the middle, equidistant from Berwick upon Tweed northward, and Southampton southward, at the same time that there is very little difference in its distance from Boston and Chester, on an east and west line.

It is locally fixed in the south west corner of the county, and of the venerable Sherwood forest, and drily and airily situated upon a soft rock covered with a sandy soil. On three sides, it is sufficiently protected by gentle eminences from the most hurtful blasts, whilst its southern aspect gives it every advantage of the enlivening rays of the noon-tide sun at all seasons of the year. On this point of view, it overlooks the fertile and extensive vale of Belvoir, the Nottinghamshire wolds, and the hills of Leicestershire; a prospect not only pleasing from its beauty, but also from the consideration of the great fertility of the vicinity, particularly in the barley crops, and which has rendered Nottingham so long famous for malt and ale.

The rock on which it stands, is so high that even the ground floors of many houses on its summit, are a long way elevated above the roofs of other habitations situated in the *Narrow Marsh* at its foot. Indeed the stranger is struck with the novelty of the prospect when in one part he contemplates three tiers of streets, each overlooking the one immediately below it, and many of the houses in these streets with apartments cut into the rock, below the cellars of the superior ones.

From several breaks in the *High* and *Low Pavements*, and in the *Castle Lane*, the birds eye view of the houses and gardens between the foot of the rock and the rivers Lene and Trent, is extremely picturesque, and becomes more so when the spectator views the more distant scenery extending from the roman-

tic and pleasing hills of Sneinton and Colwick in the south east, round by Bridgeford and Gamston, &c. to the deep embowered village of Wilford, overtopped by the shady groves of Clifton.

The *ancient extent* of the town was from Chapel bar across the Mansfield road towards the present house of correction, from whence it turned short to the southward, through Coal-pit lane, and thence to the Hollow stone, then forming the southern entrance into the town; thence along the pavements towards the south side of Castle gate, joining the castle rock, near to the present brewhouse yard.

In later times (about the middle of the last century,) Dering tells us that the town of Nottingham was about two statute miles, and the County of the town spread its jurisdiction upwards of ten miles, in circumference; the boundaries of which they carefully preserve by chusing every half year a certain number of persons of the town, headed by one of the coroners, which are called the *Middleton Jury*, a name supposed by Dering to be contracted from "middle town Jury," not only because they are summoned from amongst the towns people, but because whilst they take care of the extreme boundaries, they likewise walk through the middle, and every part of the town, taking notice of, and preventing, all incroachments and nuisances.

The flourishing condition of manufactures in Nottingham have, however, during a course of many years, considerably extended its limits, so as to have added perhaps one half to its superficial contents within the last century; whilst the progress of building, not only in the very heart of the town, but also in its outskirts, promises a further increase, as soon as the commerce of the world shall be restored to its ancient footing. The

ANCIENT WALLS, and GATES, of Nottingham are now scarcely to be traced, although in Leland's time some part of them was remaining; he says, "the town hath been meetly welle wallid

wallid with stone, and hath had divers gates, much of the walle is now downe, and the gates, savinge 2 or 3."

The ancient line of wall we have already noticed in describing the extent of the town in former times; to this we have little more to add than that the original wall was built by Edward the elder for the better security and defence of the place about the year 910, and that William the Conqueror made some addition to them on building the castle; for after that, the wall of the town joined the outer wall of the castle, and thence ran northward to Chapel bar. Of this, in Dering's time, there were manifest vestiges remaining.; and Throsby says, that though from Chapel bar north, and round to the east, the true ancient wall is not to be traced above ground, yet even within a few years, some parts of it have been found in digging; and he adds that of the wall extending westward along the rock by the coal yard to the hollow stone, a portion was lately visible.

Dering says, that about midway between the castle and Chapel bar, in a part of the ditch now formed into a reservoir, some ruins were to be seen in his time of a postern, which was erected in consequence of a precept of Henry the third, in which he orders "his bailiffs and burgesses of Nottingham without delay to make a postern in the wall of the said town, near the castle, towards Lenton, of such a breadth and height that two armed horsemen carrying two lances on their shoulders might go in and out; where *William, Archbishop of York*, had appointed it, who made the King understand that it was expedient for him and his heirs, and for the castle and town"——most certainly rather a curious subject for an *archbishop* to advise his monarch on; it is, however, a pretty specimen of "good old times"!

From this postern, adds Dering, a bridge went over the town ditch, which though long since filled up, along with the whole line of fosse on this side of the town may be traced, whilst the scite of the bridge is even now called *Boston Bridge*, an evident corruption of the original name. Great part of the ditch itself is still occupied as kitchen gardens, and there is a bury-

ing ground of the Baptists at one end of it; whilst the lane that runs along it is called *Butt Dyke*, having formerly been used as a place of exercise for the town's people in archery.

About the middle of the last century, Chapel bar was pulled down, and was then the last remaining specimen of the ancient gates. Under it had been two arched rooms, one of which was a guard room; the other a military chapel, but which had for many years been occupied as a brewhouse by an alderman of the town; whose mash tubs having been placed even on the altars without regard to their former sanctity, some facetious layman, anxious to have a kick at the fallen superstitions of Catholic times, exercised his Pegasus in *drawing up* what has been esteemed a witty epigram:

"Here priests of old, turned wafers into God,
And gave poor laymen bread for flesh and blood,
But now a liquid myst'ry's here set up,
Where priest and layman both, partake the cup."

The *Hollow Stone*, though much altered of late years, may now still be considered as the remains of an ancient entrance or gate to the town. About seventy years ago it was a very narrow passage, having been secured by a strong portcullis, of which at that time there were some evident traces to be seen. Within the gate on the left hand, there was a cavity cut in the rock capable of holding twenty men with a fire place and benches, evidently designed for a guard house, and having a staircase cut also in the rock for the relief of the centinels. Dr. Dering considers this as having been used for military purposes even as late as the civil wars, perhaps first executed at that very period. This passage, however, is now sufficiently wide for two carriages to pass, in consequence of a late duke of Kingston, in the year 1740, having made a present to the corporation of a house which belonged to him standing on the rock above the passage, and which being pulled down enabled the workmen to proceed in cutting away the rock to its present width.

width. During this process the labourers met with some portions of the ancient wall, of which the mortar formed the hardest part.

There is perhaps no town in the kingdom that has a more curious variety of NAMES FOR ITS STREETS than Nottingham; all taken from the various circumstances of relative situations, or their peculiar qualities. Some of them, and these are even now the most frequented for trade, take their appellations from the different occupations exercised in them at the time when Nottingham had a considerable portion of that species of the Iron manufacture now transferred to Birmingham, such as Bridlesmith Gate, Girdlesmith Gate, Fletcher Gate, &c.; others from different animals, Cow lane, Sheep lane, &c., and some Jew lane, Rotten row, Cuckstool row, &c. sufficiently descriptive of their various properties.

There is another street which runs along the north side of the town, at the *back* of that range of buildings that forms one side of the market place and Long row; this had a name which, though certainly very appropriate to its situation, is said by Throsby to have been disagreeable to the ears of a Mr. Rouse, a resident in it, a man of some property, but generally considered as a little deranged in his intellects. The proof which Throsby adduces of this, is, that he offered himself, not many years ago, as a candidate at an election to serve in Parliament, and this, he says, was done in one of his mad fits! In order to accomplish his design, he treated his companions, who were all of the lower order of the electors, with ale, purl, and sometimes with rhubarb, which he strongly recommended to all as an excellent thing for the human constitution; and no doubt would have proposed measures of a similar tendency for the political constitution had his ambition been gratified.

Notwithstanding his fondness for this medicine, he disliked the name of the street in which he resided, and conceiving that the residence of a man who wished to get into parliament should bear some reference to the object of his ambition he

caused at his own expense a number of boards to be stuck up at the most conspicuous corners and passages, by which those who could read, were informed that they were in Parliament Street. He and his ambition are now in the silent grave, but his efforts to get some how or other into a parliamentary way, are, we believe, not quite obliterated, and the *learned* of the neighbourhood in order to shew their *reading*, have adopted his whim, but the *illiterate* are still rude enough to make use of its more vulgar appellation.

The STREETS, in general, are upon a narrow scale, if we except the Castle gate and the high Pavement; and we are sorry to say, whilst describing the *beauties* of Nottingham, that there is too much truth in Throsby's observation, which we shall quote, but tempered with the confession that we have perceived considerable improvement in this respect in some parts of the town, whilst in others the censure must be allowed to remain in full force. We have heard it said that the great clash of parties in Nottingham operates, in some degree, against unanimity in measures necessary for the improvement and welfare of the town; if this is the case, we must hope that a more liberal spirit will begin to shew itself; for, that there is much of a liberal spirit, in the leaders at least, is evident from the active exertions which have lately been made, and are still making here, in the cause of benevolence, and which we shall have occasion to notice more fully under the heads of the Infirmary and Lunatic Asylum. Mr. Throsby's observation is as follows:—"but when it is said that the scite of Nottingham is delightful, the air salubrious, and the town one of the pleasantest in the kingdom, it must be lamented that the new buildings are erected, many of them, without any design of forming regular streets. Well contrived streets or passages" he adds "are highly conducive to health and cleanliness; but here is a *resurrection* of buildings, generally without order, seated like clusters of mushrooms in a field cast up by chance." He then exclaims, "how the gathered filth within doors is scattered daily,

daily, in the dirty passages without, in the front of the dwellings!—and many of these streets and lanes, if so they may called, are without any sort of pavement, consequently without regulated water courses, and consequently pregnant with mischievous effects."

Of the CAVES and CAVERNS in the town we have already slightly spoken. Leland says, "southward as to the waterside be great clifes and rokkes of stones, that be large and very good to build with, and many houses settle on the toppes of them; and at the botom of these be great caves, where many stones hath been diggid oute for buildings yn the town, and these caves be partely for cellars and storehouses." Many of these caves and cellars are but of modern date; others no doubt are extremely ancient, perhaps enlarged in different eras; and it is by no means unlikely that a strict antiquarian research into the subterranean part of Nottingham might be attended with some very interesting discoveries.

For want of any very recent information on this subject, we must be content to take notice of some circumstances which took place during the last century, and which are handed to us on the authority of Dering, but unfortunately that is again founded merely on the story of a bricklayer, who, if he was a fellow of any thing like what is called *genius* by the lower classes, might perhaps have been amusing himself with the credulity of the local antiquary.

Dering, indeed, speaking generally of these excavations, says, that in several parts of the town structures of a very considerable extent, arched in a regular manner, and supported by columns with carved capitals, have been discovered at different times, together with apartments for lodging places with obscure entrances, whilst digging for foundations for the houses in Long Row, and on the south side of the market place. But there may be something apocryphal in the story of a bricklayer, who assured him that, when an apprentice, and at work near the Weekday Cross, he got into one of those subterraneous

fabrics, supported by those ornamented pillars already noticed, and through which he made his way to the upper end of Pilcher gate, having found there a wooden cup and a wooden can, which seemed to be sound and whole, but, on being taken hold of, mouldered into dust.

The conclusion drawn from this by Dering is too erroneous to escape notice; for he says "these places being of the *Gothic* order, I conjecture to have been contrived in the time of the heptarchy," which was in fact about three hundred years *before* the introduction of *Gothic architecture* into England! There is, however, more apparent probability in the sequel, as the causes which he assigns may have not only brought some of the ancient excavations into use, but rendered the making of others necessary; for he observes that the *Danes*, who were then Pagans, made frequent inroads into the kingdom of Mercia, where they exercised in a most extraordinary manner their cruelties upon nuns and friars, and indeed upon Christian priests of all kinds. To them, therefore, these caves might have been a refuge in time of danger, and there they might possibly have been in the habit of performing their religious duties, without the danger of being exposed to the fury of those persecuting idolaters. The

CASTLE is the first object of particular curiosity to a stranger; not so much perhaps for its own beauty, as for its commanding situation, and the interesting historical passages connected with it. Camden, who wrote whilst the ancient fortress was in existence, briefly observes, that this castle rises on a bold rock on the west side of the town, where it is supposed to have been anciently a fort which the Danes held out against Ethelred as already mentioned; but without attending to suppositions, we have the historical fact that it was founded by William the Conqueror, and its government conferred on William Peverel, who seems, or at least his son, to have been the superintendant of its erection.*

Of

* This castle not being mentioned in Domesday-book, has led some to suppose that it was not erected until the reign of Henry the first.

Of its state at that period, we are told by William of Newburgh, that it was made so strong both by nature and art, that it was esteemed impregnable (except by famine) if provided with a sufficient garrison.

In the reign of Edward the third, it was considered so strong as to be a secure residence for the Queen-mother and the earl of March; and it was by stratagem only that the youthful monarch, (as we shall notice more fully) was able to procure access in order to check the arrogance of the favourite.

It was afterwards much enlarged by Edward the fourth, particularly with an immense tower, said to have been a stately and magnificent fabric of stone; to which Richard the third added a tower, or so much enlarged and strengthened that built by his brother, as to be the reputed founder of it, and of this the scite may still easily be ascertained.

Those who are anxious to enquire accurately into its form and extent may have recourse to Dering, who, by means of quotation, aided by conjecture, is very copious on the subject; but perhaps the best delineation we can give of its ancient state will be from Leland, who visited it in the reign of Henry the eighth. He says "there is a great likelihood that the castelle was builded of stones taken out of the rokke and the great ditches of it.

The Base Court is large and meetly strong, and a stately bridge is there with pillars, being bestes and Giantes, over the ditch into the second warde; the frontier of the which warde in the entering is exceedinge stronge with toures and portecoleces. Much part of the west side of this inner warde, as the haul and other thinges be yn ruines. The est side is stronge and well toured; and so is the south side.

But the moste beautifullest and gallant building for lodging is in the north side where Edward the 4th, began a right sumptuous pece of stone work, of the which he clerely finished an excellent goodlie tour of 3 heights yn building, and brought up the other part likewise from the foundation with stone and marvelus

marvelus fair compaced windoes to layyng of the first soyle for chambers and their lofte.

Then king Richard his brother, as I hard there, forced up upon that worke another peece of one loft of tymbre, making round windows also of tymbre to the proportion of the aforesaid windows of Stone, a good foundation for the new tymbre windows. So that surely that north part is an exceding piece of work.

The dungeon or keepe of the castelle standeth by south and est, and is exceding strong *et natura loci et opere.*

. Ther is an old fair chapelle and a walle of a greate depthe. The kepers of the castelle say Edward the thirdes band came up through the rok and toke the erle Mortymer prisoner.

There is yet a fair stair to go down by the rok to the ripe of Lene. There be diverse buildings betwyxt the dungeon and the inner court of the castelle; and ther goith also doune a stair ynto the ground, wher Davy kinge of Scottes, as the castellanes say, was kept as a prisoner.

I marked in all 3 chapelles yn the castille, and 3 welles."

From this description of Leland's, it is evident that this is one of the castles which had been permitted to go to decay in the preceding reign; but, as Thoroton says, "the whole became far more ruinous in the possession of Francis, earl of Rutland, in the latter end of whose time, many of the goodly buildings were pulled down, and the iron and other materials sold."

During the civil wars, we have already seen that it was occupied merely as a fortress; but was soon after, by order of Cromwell, so far demolished as to render it unserviceable for war.

After the restoration, the duke of Buckingham claimed it in right of his mother; but soon after sold it to the duke of Newcastle, who, in the year 1674, and at the advanced age of 82, began to clear away the whole of the ancient work, and build the present mansion, which he lived to see about three feet above the ground; and dying in 1676, it was finished according

to

to his plan about three years afterwards. Before we proceed to delineate its present state, it will be proper to take some notice of

MORTIMER'S HOLE,

which, with its history, has caused a long controversy amongst the various writers since the days of Camden; but which we shall be able to delineate with accuracy and *novelty* through the kind attention of Mr. Stretton of Lenton priory, the present architect of the castle, and to whose indefatigable spirit of research the historical world is much indebted for a local discovery which confirms the ancient chronicles in their simple statements, and clears up that immense mass of doubt and conjecture in which so many later historians have completely lost their way. It is, at the same time, necessary to remark, that the discovery to which we allude, had been partially known before, although the later commentators had, by some unaccountable neglect, failed to avail themselves of the light which it throws upon the whole story.

Rapin, speaking of the plan of Edward the third, to seize upon the favourite, takes his account of it from the old chronicles, and says, that "to execute his designs, he chose the time the parliament was to meet at Nottingham.

The court being come to that town, queen Isabella and the earl of March lodged in the castle with a guard of one hundred and eighty knights;* whilst the king with a small retinue was lodged in the town.

In spite of these precautions, which seemed to shew that the the queen and favourite were not without their uneasiness, Edward having gained the governor,† entered the castle through a *secret*

* Stow says that the Queen had the keys of the castle brought to her every night, and laid them under her pillow.

† The governor was Sir William Eland, who, in a MSS. chronicle quoted by Dering, is described as saying to the young king, when the matter was first proposed, "Sir woll ye understande that the yats of the castelle beth loken with lokys, and queen Isabell sent hidder by night for the kayes thereof, and they be

a *secret* passage, and came into his mother's apartment—there was at first some noise made, and two knights of the guard were killed. The earl of March was apprehended, and notwithstanding the queen's cries and entreaties to spare the gallant Mortimer, he was carried out the same way the king came in, and conducted under a strong guard to the tower of London." * The oldest description of the *passage* thus alluded to, is in Camden,

be layde under the chemsell of her beddis hede unto the morrow, and so I may not come into the castell by the yats no manner of wyse, but yet I know another weye by an aley that stretcheth oute of the ward under the earthe into the castell that gooth into the west, which aley queen Isabell, no more of her meayne ne the Mortimer ne none of his companye knowth it not, and so I shall lede you through the aley, and so ye shall come into the castell without aspiges of any men that beth your Enemies." Stowe and the other chroniclers inform us more particularly than Rapin seems to have thought necessary, that it was upon Friday after the feast of St. Luke, in the dead time of the night, that the king and his party "got into the castle by a way made under ground, which through a rock *passeth by stairs up to the keep* (which place hath ever since been called Mortimer's Hole) and entering a room next to the queen's lodgings, found the Earl with Henry bishop of Lincoln, and some others, &c." Vide Magna Britannia, Vol. IV. p. 7. The queen is stated to have exclaimed, "Bel Fitz, Bel Fitz, ayes pitie de gentill Mortimer."

* This unfortunate favourite was not heard in his defence against the various charges brought against him, some of which were certainly rather political *errors* than political *crimes*, whilst others were more supported by *inference* than by *proof*. With respect to his personal familiarity with the Queen-mother however, that must still remain as an historical fact; although he had a very numerous family by his wife, Joan daughter of Peter de Geneville Lord of Trim in Ireland. His sentence, which, ran, that he should, as a traitor, be drawn and hanged on the common gallows at Tyburn, was executed without the least favour. His body, after hanging two days and nights, was granted to the Friars minors, who buried it in their church, now Christ Church. The irregularity of his not being heard, however, proved in the end advantageous to his family, for Roger his grandson obtained afterwards an act to reverse this sentence as erroneous, and his descendants, in the female line, afterwards mounted the throne of England. Edward the fourth was son of Anne Mortimer, duchess of York, and heiress of Edmund her brother, the last earl of March.

Camden, who after telling us "certain it is that in the first court of the castle we descend with lights down many steps into another subterraneous vault and arched rooms cut in the rock itself; on the walls of which are carved Christ's passion, and other things, by the hand as they pretend of David king of Scots who was there imprisoned," adds "in the upper part of the castle which rises high on the rock, we came by many steps into a subterraneous cavern called Mortimer's hole, from Roger Mortimer's concealing himself in it, when his conscience gave him the alarm."

The later historians all animadvert upon this evident error of Camden; and Dering says, "had Mr. Camden been more exact in observing the place we are speaking of, he would hardly have fallen into this error, &c.;" but we cannot help retorting upon Dering that even *he* seems not to have taken that careful observation of the place which might have been expected from the hints given him by a Mr. Paramour, and which he mentions in his description of the place.

That the passage, now called Mortimer's hole, leading from the court of the old castle, to the level at the bottom of the rock, was *not* the *secret* passage mentioned by the historians, is almost self evident; for it is a vault seven feet high and six wide with broad steps the whole way down cut in the rock, though now almost entirely worn away, and upwards of 107 yards in length. There are even now the remains of several gates which were in it for defence; and Dering himself says, that after the conquest, it was no doubt made use of for the purpose of conveying the meat and beer, for the use of the garrison, the nearest way into the castle, its lower entrance opening into the brewhouse yard, and connecting it with the mills erected on the river Lene, then brought to run close by the rock on which the castle stands. After noticing a passage from Drayton's Baron's wars, purporting that this "wonderful passage had been hewed and dug out during the Danish invasion by some of the Saxon kings for the better security in case of a siege" Dering adds, that for his

his own part he could not help thinking it designed to relieve the castle with men and provisions, in case of a siege, in which the enemy should be in possession of the town.

That a passage used for such purposes could have been unknown in the reign of Edward the third, is impossible; we might therefore, safely conclude, even without having seen the place, that the passage from the upper court yard of the castle into the rock yard, or brewhouse of the castle, as it is called in old writings, and which seems the only one known to Leland or Camden, could not have been *that secret passage*, through which Edward and his party entered. With respect to its general description, even as it exists at the present day, Dering is certainly very correct. He says, that this way through the rock was provided with no less than six gates, of which some remains are still to be seen, *besides a side one*,* on the left hand going down: "the first gate was above ground leading from the turret down to the second; the place where the turret stood is now covered by part of the modern fabric, and the passage to the second gate is filled, and the gate itself walled up with stone; to this leads a new passage cut out of the rock since the building of the present castle, without the wall of the paved yard.

"The distance between the first and the second gate I take to have been about 16 yards; from this we step down 14 yards, and meet with the marks of another, and 15 yards lower was a fourth; *about 45 yards below this, on the left hand, we observe a gate bricked up, which with seven or eight steps did lead up into some works of the old tower (as the late Mr. Jonathan Paramour informed me, in whose time it was bricked up;)* about eight yards below this stood a fifth, and the sixth and lowest which opened into the rock yard, and is also now bricked up, is still about nine yards lower—there are, all the way down, till within 15 or 16 yards of the bottom, openings in the side of the rock to convey light into this passage, and to serve the soldiers to shoot their

* Here indeed he is evidently wrong, for this appears never to have been a *gate* like the others; but merely a rough hole easily filled up and concealed.

their arrows through upon the enemy; in the upper part are cut out several regular port holes, which show that, during the civil war, canons were planted there, which commanded all the meadows; there are besides in this part of the vault observable many holes or excavations about a foot in height, breadth, and depth; these seem to have been made to lodge cannon balls in to prevent their rolling to the bottom."

From this description, which is undoubtedly accurate in general, we are led to suppose, that Dr. Dering was as careless in his examination of the place as those who went before him; and it is extremely curious that he pays no particular attention to the observation of Mr. Paramour noticed above in Italics. If he had observed this passage in the left hand, he would have found that it was not bricked up, but so artificially closed with rough stone as to resemble the *living rock* itself.

Mr. Stretton, however, was particularly struck with Paramour's description, and being determined to ascertain the fact with considerable difficulty discovered the entrance alluded to, which led into a narrow winding passage into the body of the rock, and seemed to direct itself towards the present terrace, but was entirely filled up at the upper end. After removing the gravel and soil from that part of the terrace at the east end of the present building, and as near as possible to the site of the ancient keep, he was enabled to enter the passage from above, and which by a careful comparison with the plan of the castle drawn by Smithson in 1617, and some other MSS. documents in Mr. Stretton's own possession, was ascertained to have originally led into the keep which contained the state apartments.

This then was the *secret* passage which Sir William Eland alone knew, and of which Mortimer and the queen had no suspicion; for the principal passage did not lead into the body of the castle, but into a court yard, and into which, if there was an entrance from the keep, that was considered as secure by the keys being delivered up at night to the Queen.

All doubts and conjectures are therefore completely cleared

up by this investigation: so that it is no longer necessary to suppose the principal passage a *secret* one, a thing almost incredible; or, as some have done, to doubt the whole story, in consequence of the apparent incredibility.

The passage itself is again partly closed up below, with the stones which before had been used for that purpose; on the level of the terrace it is completely secured and gravelled over; but the spot is marked, so as to shew in the clearest manner its connection with the ancient buildings as laid down in Smithson's plan.

The cavern in which the king of Scots is said to have been confined was at the other end of the castle, and was in fact nothing more than a complete range of cellars dug out of the rock, part of which we believe were preserved for the use of the modern mansion, and the rest filled up with rubbish.*

If it were not for these historical facts, the castle itself, as it now exists, would not be an object of any particular interest. At the time of its erection, indeed, it was much admired; and Stukely, who visited it soon after, says, "it is a goodly building on a high perpendicular rock, and seems to have been modelled after some of Inigo Jones."

Mr Throsby's animadversion on it, however, is not an unjust one; he says "art should here have been, in effect, as bold as nature; a lofty massy pile towering towards the heavens, with turrets and embattled walls, the taste of ages past, placed on its brow, instead of the present formal and equal edifice, would have created a scene of splendour not in seemingly irregular order."

Yet

* In 1720 this place was opened by order of the then duke of Newcastle, in order to search for the carvings said to have been made by the king of Scots, and described by Camden, but without any discovery of them, owing to the great quantity of rubbish, &c. It is now walled up with brick, and is on the east side of a yard which was formed for various domestic purposes, for a slaughter house, &c. at the period when the castle was inhabited by the noble owners.

Yet it must be allowed that the edifice has some merit in its architecture abstractedly considered. It is a very large building, on a rustic basement which supports an ornamented front of the Corinthian order, with a very grand double flight of steps leading to the principal range of apartments. Over the door of the north east front, here alluded to, is an equestrian statue of the founder, who was so determined on its erection that he tied up a considerable estate by his will for that express purpose. The statue is the more remarkable for being carved out of one solid block of stone brought from Donnington in Leicestershire, and was executed by an ingenious artist of the name of Wilson.* The other sides of the building are handsome, but not so highly ornamented, with a handsome terrace surrounding the whole, and an arcade on the south side. This has long been a favourite promenade with the haut ton of Nottingham, and is certainly very delightful in a summer evening, from the extensiveness of the prospect in which the Trent forms a very conspicuous object in the fore ground; then the groves of Clifton appear with Wilford on the banks of the river; beyond this to the right is a rich valley over which Derbyshire may be clearly seen; then Wollaton hall, and the forest of Sherwood, &c. and to the left, the vale and castle of Belvoir, Rudington hills, and Colwick hall and village, Holm Pierpoint, &c. whilst almost the whole town of Nottingham is below in a birds eye view. This is the same prospect partly seen from the openings in the rock in Mortimer's Hole, and which, in its detached masses, seems like so many living pictures in a frame.

The apartments in the interior were once very fine; but they

* Dering says of him, that soon after executing this work, he was for a time spoiled for a statuary; because a Leicestershire lady, the widow Lady Pudsey, who was possessed of a very large jointure, falling deeply in love with him, got him knighted, and married him; but he living up to the extent of his apron string estate, and his lady dying before him, Sir William quickly returned to his former occupation, and the public recovered the loss of an eminent artist.

have long been neglected. Throsby, who visited it about fifteen or twenty years ago, says "within the castle I found nothing to attract; the pictures which once adorned the walls of the apartments are now removed, and the chief of the furniture. Here remains only some tapestry, &c. Some of the rooms I found occupied by a Miss Kirkby; lately a part of the castle was used as a boarding school." At present we find it inhabited by two ladies, in separate tenements; but there is nothing to be seen, which can induce a stranger to intrude upon their domestic privacy. The

PARK

is but small, containing only 130 acres, and at present in a very neglected state, yet still used as a summer promenade, and much frequented from different roads leading through it to Wilford, Lenton, &c. It has now no deer, and but very few trees; yet we are informed that it was well stocked with the former until after 1720, and that it had many good timber trees, until they were cut down on the property being sequestrated in the civil wars.

Dr. Thoroton is of opinion that this park, or at least the one half of it, was that which William Peverell had a license from the Conqueror to enclose for the purpose of making him an orchard. In that license the quantity stated is ten acres, which of ancient forest measure is equal to about fifty of our present ones. The most remarkable object in the park is a range of

CAVES,

or Popish or Papist holes, as they are vulgarly called, which has been considered as confirming the conjecture that they actually belonged to an abbey or monastery, probably that of Lenton, built by William Peverel.

They stand some distance west of the castle, in the face of a cliff pretty near to the banks of the Lene, as it now runs; and are described by Dering as the ruins of an ancient pile of building, not erected upon, but cut and framed in, the rock. There are

no

no written records of them whatever, and of course, conjectures have been many and various.

In the early part of the last century, when Stukely visited them, they were more perfect that at present: he says, "what is visible at present is not of so old a date as the time of the Britons, yet I see no doubt that it is founded upon theirs. This is a ledge of perpendicular rock hewn out into a church, houses, chambers, dove-house, &c. The church is like those in the rocks at Bethlehem, and other places in the Holy Land. The altar is natural rock, and there has been painting upon the wall: a steeple, I suppose where a bell hung, and regular pillars. The river here winding about makes a fortification to it, for it comes to both ends of the cliff, leaving a plain before the middle. The way to it was by gates cut out of the rock, and with oblique entrance for more safety. Without is a plain with three niches, which I fancy their place of judicature, or the like: between this and the castle, a hermitage of like workmanship."

To this description, it is scarcely possible to add any thing that will give a better idea of the place. We can only say, that it has suffered considerably from the effects of time and weather since Stukely wrote; but enough still remains to gratify, and, at the same time, to excite curiosity. The outer part has fallen down in several places, evidently from the effects of damp and frost; but the church and altar, and even some vestiges of the ancient paintings, may be clearly traced;* many of the pillars are ornamented with capitals, &c. and the spandrilled *Gothic* arch is very well imitated in several places; a fact indeed which militates against their very early antiquity. It is much to be regretted that no care whatever is taken to preserve this venerable specimen; the floor of it is broken into holes, where the water lodges, and much of it is disfigured with the grossest filthiness. In the summer, these excavations have be-

* Some *ingenious* artist has added a number of paintings, such as elephants, soldiers in full accoutrements, &c. not inelegantly done, but which must be classed amongst "modern antiques."

come the haunts of the very lowest of society, who there take up their nocturnal abode; and if not a den of thieves, it may be considered as something worse.

On a careful examination, it is evident that the whole line of excavation has been the work of different periods. The Dove-cote, for instance, is but of modern date; and close by it, where there are chimnies cut through the rock, the marks of the smoke still remain, as if by the effects of yesterday's occupancy. Dering says that, in his time, some old people remembered them much more extensive; and he adds from tradition, "that in the time of the civil war, the Roundheads had demolished a part of them under pretence of their abhorrence to Popery," which may perhaps be the sole origin of their receiving the name of Papist holes.

We will not follow the various authors through their wide range of conjectures; but must confess that there seems most probability in that which supposes them to have been the residence of some order of anchorets or hermits, not endowed, though perhaps dependent upon some religious house, and, therefore, not recorded in any list of religious foundations. To which we must add, that it is extremely probable that, when more entire, their entrance was more easily concealed; and, therefore, that in the early days of the reformation they may have been occupied at times for religious purposes, by those who were averse from the new order of things, and wished to enjoy the exercise of their ritual in secret.

The place designated by Stukely, as an hermitage, has nothing remarkable; and we were not fortunate enough to find out the spot mentioned by Dering as affording the most clear and perfect echo, he had ever met with.

At the upper end of the park, adjoining the Derby road, are the

BARRACKS

already mentioned; a spacious range of brick buildings, open and airy, and healthfully situated. They were erected by government in 1792-93.

When

When the unhappy Charles the first resolved to raise an army in defence of his prerogatives against the encroachments of the Parliament, he appointed Nottingham as the spot where his standard should be raised, and which is said to have been first hoisted on one of the towers of the old castle, but afterwards removed to the

STANDARD HILL,

Which is just without the old wall on the north side, and situated on part of the Castle Hill. The spot is still pointed out at the present day, though its name has since been changed to that of Nevil's Close, being the property for many years of a family of that name. In order to mark the exact spot, a post had stood here for a long time, but being at length pulled up, the then owner, in order that it might still be exactly known, planted several elm trees; but these were repeatedly destroyed by the mischievous boys of the place, perhaps stimulated by those who ought to have been wiser than to wish to destroy the memory of a place remarkable for an historical fact, for the sake of some paltry feeling in politics.

In consequence of the removal of any exact mark, the local antiquaries have been at their usual conjectures respecting a fact even so recent as this; and some have asserted that a hill a small distance to the north, called Derry Mount, was the identical spot. Dr. Dering, however, is of a contrary opinion, and we think for a sufficient reason, if he is right in asserting that this latter place is not within the jurisdiction of the castle.

Waving all further conjecture, however, we shall briefly state a few of the leading circumstances from Clarendon, who tells us, at the close of his first volume, that the king "published a proclamation by which he required all men who could bear arms to repair to him at Nottingham by the 25th of August following, on which day he would set up his royal standard there, which all good subjects were obliged to attend."

It appears that some of his advisers proposed York in preference to Nottingham; but the king thought he would be

nearer to some friends who were stirring in his favour, both in the south and west. He accordingly came to Nottingham a few days before the 25th; and having gone towards Coventry with a few troops, the gates were shut against him, and he found it necessary, in consequence of the appearance of some of the parliamentarian forces, to return to Nottingham on the day appointed for the ceremony.

"According to proclamation, upon the 25th day of August (1642,) the standard was erected about six of the clock in the evening of a very stormy and tempestuous day. The king himself with a small train rode to the top of the Castle hill, Varney the Knight Marshal, who was standard bearer, carrying the standard, which was then erected on that place, with little other ceremony than the sound of drums and trumpets: melancholy men observed many ill presages about that time. The standard was blown down the same night it had been set up, by a very strong and unruly wind, and could not be fixed again in a day or two, till the tempest was allayed, &c."

Dering, and Thoroton, as well as Throsby, speak of its having been erected on the 22d; but this must allude merely to the usual hoisting of the standard in the castle on the king's arrival, which was on the 22d, and which is done even at the present day at Windsor when his Majesty is there, but the *formal erection* of it, agreeable to the proclamation, was that which took place on the Standard hill. The king's declaration on this important day, was, after setting up the standard, and the ceremony of blessing his arms, "that he would govern according to the known laws of the land; and if he failed in these things' he would expect no relief from man, nor protection from Heaven."

Before we quit the environs of the castle, it is necessary to take some further notice of the

RIVER LENE,

as far at least as it is here locally connected with the town. In an old perambulation of the forest taken in the 16th of Henry the

third (1231) the bounds are described as running "so to Lenton, and from thence by the same water, as it was wont of old time to run into the water of Trent," which confirms the generally received opinion as recited by Dering, that at Lenton bridge it used, before the Conquest, to turn towards the south and empty itself into the Trent, opposite to Wilford; but that the Conqueror, or at least one of the Peverels, turned it into a new cut running by the foot of the castle rock, as it does at present, along the south side of the town, and thence to Sneinton meadows, where it divides the jurisdiction of Nottingham and the parish of Sneinton, and turning short off falls into the Trent.

Some people have been of opinion that its present course is of a more modern date; but the quotation from the perambulation must now be considered as conclusive.

Leland says, "the little ryver of Lene and the great stream of Trente cum nere together in the medow on the south side of the town; and when any land waters cum down much of the vale and meadowes there be overflowen." Since his time, however, great improvements have been made in the state of this river. Throsby has recorded the particulars with such accuracy, that we shall quote him where he says, that the passage over the Leen (or Lene) into Nottingham, was made between twenty and thirty years ago, very commodious, and an ornament to the town. In fact it is so at the present moment; but when he wrote, it had been partly destroyed by a great flood which happened in March 1795. He further says when the improvements first took place, in consequence of making a cut from the Erewash canal near Nottingham, to communicate with the Trent near Trent bridge, the old road from the bridge to the town was in a great measure cut away for that purpose. The new high road was, therefore, formed in a straight line, at a very great expense, and raised to a height which was supposed to be far above any probable rise of the rivers. By the execution of this plan, a number of little bridges were united into one grand and light range of arches over all the water currents and swampy ground on the

London road. This, however, could not resist that severe flood; the very foundation of the arches was shaken; much of the solid road was swept away; and the whole damage was estimated at upwards of 2000*l.*

Since that period, the whole has been repaired, and so consolidated, as to bid defiance to every thing but the silent attacks of time.

The *Trent bridge* was anciently called Heathbethe bridge, according to the opinion of Thoroton and others; and much antiquarian conjecture may be found on this subject in Dering and Throsby. There certainly was a bridge built here by Edward the Elder, about a century before the Norman accession, which remained in part until 1683, when it was almost completely destroyed by the ice. The corporation then erected the present bridge of stone, consisting of twenty arches, to which considerable repairs and improvements have been made; notwithstanding which it has a very venerable appearance, throwing its long range of arches across the flats on the London road. The funds for the support of this bridge are now, we believe, pretty considerable. Even in the middle of the last century, they amounted to 130*l.* per annum, which consisting of houses and lands granted by the crown, of gifts and legacies, besides tolls, &c. must now be considerably improved in value. We have not seen any recent statement of these funds; but the sum mentioned was a net receipt after paying all charges, "burgesses parts, &c." The rapidity of the floods in the Trent, so often mentioned, prevents all attempts at the erection of water mills, and is the reason why a stranger on his first arrival is forcibly struck with the appearance of so many windmills, where there is apparently such a copious supply of water. We cannot help being of opinion, however, that very commodious water mills might be erected here upon the same principle as those on the banks of the Rhine in Germany. These are erected upon platforms of wood, properly secured against the force of the current, and made to rise and fall with the water. In seasons of frost, they might be totally

removed; as is done in many cities on the Rhine, particularly at Mentz. Nottingham, in its

ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISION,

has three parishes; *St. Mary's; St. Peter's;* and *St. Nicholas;* each of which has its appropriate church; and there is besides the extra-parochial chapel of *St. James,* lately built on part of the castle ground.

ST. MARY'S is the largest parish, and contains the principal church, which standing on a bold eminence, twenty-three yards in perpendicular height above the level of the meadows, presents a commanding appearance to the spectator in almost every direction. Leland, when speaking of it, says that "it is excellent *newe,* and unyforme yn work, and so many fair wyndows yn it that no artificer can imagine to set more." Stukely also describes it as "a fine old lightsome building, with a good ring of eight bells."

As it is said by Leland to be "newe," we must presume that it had just received a complete repair at his visit; for its antiquity is of a much older date, and carried back by some to the Saxon times, evident indeed from its architecture, or at least previous to the reign of Stephen, when that mode of architecture fell into disuse. We are not disposed, however, to place any reliance on the tale of Dering, of a workman who told him that in repairing the west end, he had seen a date cut in one of the timbers, which he did not remember, but knew that it was upwards of eleven hundred years old! This church is built quite in the collegiate style, in form of a cross, with a very august tower in the centre, and evidently of the Gothic of Henry the seventh's reign: and its whole appearance is venerable and impressive.

It is at present undergoing a complete repair, and it is but due to the taste of those who superintend it, to say, that the ancient workmanship is preserved as much as possible. It is at the same time a matter of regret that the ancient bell loft in the body

body of the church is taken down, as it was a very curious fragment of old customs.

The interior is as venerable as the outside; the windows cast a dim religious light, but are no longer adorned with their ancient painted glass, except some trifling fragments. There was also an ancient painting on the wall, of St. Christopher; but nothing remains to gratify curiosity, except some faint shades that are scarcely perceptible.

The monuments in the church have once been numerous; both mural or of the tablet kind, and also many brass plates; but these latter were almost entirely stripped off by the liberal and reforming round heads in the civil commotions of the seventeenth century.

In the south aisle is "our Lady's chapel" which contains the tomb of the first and second Earls of Clare, who died at the beginning and middle of the seventeenth century; and opposite to this, on the north side is the "Chapel of All Saints" the burial place of the Plumtre family. In this latter chapel is a window which, for size and elegance of ornament, surpasses most that we have seen of its date and style, and whose ramifications and tracery, by making even darkness more visible, add much to the solemnity of the surrounding scene of mortality.

The ancient organ was destroyed in the civil wars; another built in 1704, which was taken down and replaced in 1742: but the present elegant and fine toned one was erected in 1777, by *Snetzler*. It has two fronts; and, both in tone and elegance, is a convincing proof of the extraordinary skill of its maker. For the inscriptions on the monuments, and on the bells which now amount to ten in number, we must refer to Dering, as even a slight recapitulation would far exceed our limits. Before the reformation this church had a guild or fraternity of six priests in honour of the Trinity, and also three chantries. The Triennial and Annual visitations of the archbishop, and of the archdeacon, are always held in this church.

St. Peter's Church is a handsome edifice with a lofty spire,

standing near the market place. It still retains some memorials of Saxon architecture; much of Gothic; and a considerable share of modern additions, added during a recent repair. The necessity for these modern additions was occasioned by the damage which it sustained in the civil wars during the siege of the town by Cromwell's forces; at which time in particular a shell fell upon the vestry, and destroyed not only that but also part of the body of the church. It is at present well lighted in consequence of its modern windows, and is sufficiently large to accommodate the parishioners; which cannot be said of St. Mary's, whose parish is considerably larger than both the others.

Whilst digging a vault about a century ago, the workmen discovered the remains of *John de Plumtre*, the benevolent founder of the hospital at the bridge, and which still bears his name; and who, with his brother, desired by will to be buried in the chapel of All Saints in this church.

Here is a very good ring of bells, the 7th of which was given to the church by Margery Doubleday, a washerwoman, in 1544, with twenty shillings per annum to the sexton, for the ringing of it every morning at four o'clock, in order to rouse all future nymphs of the tub to their daily labour.

There are many monuments in the church; but they are principally interesting to the local antiquary, as illustrative of the descent of the various families in the parish. In this church the Spiritual Court is held.

St. Nicholas' Church was pulled down in the civil wars, by order of Colonel Julius Hutchinson, the parliamentarian governor; its materials applied to private profit, and the bells as it is said sent by the governor to the manor house at Owthorpe.* The reason assigned for pulling it down, was its extreme vicinity to the castle, which would have been beneficial to a besieging

* This seems, however, partly contradicted by a fact mentioned by Throsby, who says that in digging some years ago near the foundation of the present tower, part of a bell was found broken to pieces, supposed to have been done at the demolition of the old church.

sieging army in case of an attack. The present edifice was erected in 1678; it is of brick, ornamented with stone corners, window frames, &c. and has a light and airy appearance. There is a very fine prospect from the church yard, though its elevation is only eleven yards above the level of the Trent.

The interior is very well lighted, and extremely comfortable in consequence of the great attention paid to it; for the parish is of late years so increased as to be superior to St. Peter's. It consists of a spacious nave and two side aisles, the southernmost of which was much enlarged in 1756 by private subscription; and a similar extension of the north aisle took place in 1783, when 500*l.* were raised for that purpose. It has been of late years new paved, and ornamented with a handsome pulpit and reading desk, and also with a new gallery on the north side. The ancient monuments were all destroyed; and the modern ones do not require any particular notice. Amongst other parochial charities, is a *chance bequest* of Anthony Walker, a wandering beggar, who left two cottages and six acres of ground at Matlock to that parish in which he should die, which happened to be this of St. Nicholas.

St. James's Church, or chapel, has lately been built, in consequence of the great increase of population, on castle ground, which is extra-parochial. On or near to its scite, was in ancient times a chapel, which was granted by Edward the second to the friars Carmelites, to whose monastery it was adjoining. Here also the court of the honour of Peverel was held for some centuries, but now removed to Basford.

The present edifice is light, neat, and elegant, both within and without, and judiciously and tastefully executed in imitation of the Gothic style, under the superintendance of Mr. Stretton of Lenton priory, whose taste and research as an antiquary are fully displayed by his choice of style and selection of ornaments. The inside is peculiarly neat and comfortable, without losing any thing of its Gothic air; and the light support of the galleries, together with the execution of the pulpit and reading

reading desk, are in themselves complete models for future architects.

If it has any defect it is in the lowness of the tower, which we believe proceeds from a lowness in the subscription purse. By the act of Parliament for its establishment, the subscribers have at present the presentation in their own hands, but it is in a certain time to devolve to the crown.

In the town of Nottingham, there were formerly several RELIGIOUS FOUNDATIONS. Leland says, "there hath been 3 houses of freres, as I remember, whereof 2 stoode toward the weste of the towne, and not far from the castelle."

The GREY FRIARS were placed in the Broadmarsh not far from the castle. The house was founded by Henry the third in 1250, and granted at the dissolution to Thomas Heneage. It is now the scite of a brewery.

The WHITE FRIARS, or Carmelites, had a house in St. Nicholas parish. It was founded by Reginald lord Grey de Wilton, and Sir John Shirley, Knt. and granted by Henry the eighth to James Sturley.

The HOUSE OF ST. JOHNS belonging to the knights of Jerusalem, stood on the eastern side of the town.

ST. LEONARD'S HOSPITAL for Lepers, was also somewhere on the eastern side: it had the privilege of cutting the dead wood in the forest of Nottingham.

ST. MARY'S CELL, we are told by Tanner in the Not. Mon. was founded in the reign of Henry the third for two monks in the chapel of St. Mary in the rock under the castle.

ST. SEPULCHRE'S was a brotherhood in the reign of Henry the third: and a COLLEGE of Secular priests was once existing in the castle.*

As

* Dering is very copious in his detail of the various rules of these different orders; we shall select one or two to exemplify the *chastity* and *cleanliness* of the monks, two virtues with which we believe they never have been extraordinarily gifted.

With

As Nottingham has but three parish churches which have long been inadequate to the increased population, it is not surprizing that it should contain such a number of DISSENTING AND SECTARIAN PLACES OF WORSHIP.

The HIGH PAVEMENT MEETING is established by a number of the most respectable inhabitants of the town, and the building itself is a handsome square of brick, and of modern erection. It is spacious, light, and airy; and acknowledges the *Presbyterian* principles and form of worship.

The CASTLEGATE MEETING is nearly on the same principle, the congregation being Calvinists, and pretty numerous; and they have had the good sense to make their place of worship airy and commodious, the want of which good and necessary qualities we believe often tends to fill Sectarian Chapels with visitors who would otherwise have adhered to the Established Church.*

The GENERAL BAPTISTS are not very numerous; their place of worship was originally a Methodist chapel, and is a small, but neat, octagon building.

The BAPTIZING CALVINISTS are more numerous; and have a spacious, well lighted, comfortable place of meeting near Collin's Hospital.

Close to it, and almost adjoining the north east side of Collin's Hospital, is the very neat and simple meeting of the QUAKERS.

But

With respect to the first, it was ordained, "that no brother alone visit a sister, but in company, and that by permission, and for edification;" and that "none were to kiss the lips of any woman." With respect to the latter virtue, there were the remarkable directions "that they be not too nice in washing their clothes," and that "they dare kill no vermin, nor lye on feather beds:" and it was further ordered, that "if the abbot enjoyn to any monk *impossibilities*, he must, with reverence and submission, excuse his inability; if the abbot urge it, he must obey, and trust to God's assistance." ! !

* We may almost say that this is *proved* in the metropolis, where the comfortable chapels belonging to the church of England are always well filled, and the *parish churches* deserted.

But the most numerous of all the Protestant sectaries are the WESLEYAN METHODISTS, who have a new place of meeting in *Hockley Street*. It is large, and always well attended.

The ROMAN CATHOLICS have also a small chapel in Storey Street, King's Place; but they are not very numerous.

There was also formerly a sect of *Philadelphians*, who met in the brewhouse yard, and whom Dr. Thoroton calls a set of fanatics. Their founder was a Dutch Anabaptist, and certainly a false prophet; for he boasted that he would rise in three days after his death which happened in 1556; which not taking place, many of his followers immediately disowned his doctrines.

The PUBLIC CHARITIES, both ancient and modern, are very numerous; and the latter are upon a very extensive scale.

PLUMTRE'S HOSPITAL was founded by John Plumtre, an inhabitant of Nottingham, sometime about the 16th of Richard the second, having obtained the king's leave to erect an hospital at the bridge end for two chaplains, whereof one was to be master, and 13 poor old widows, to the honour of the annunciation of the blessed Virgin. Little of the first building is, we believe, now in existence, yet much of what remains is of considerable antiquity, and seems of Elizabeth's time, or a little before. It has a centre with ballustrade on top, two wings or ends of semi-circular zigzag outline in the roof, and the windows of plain stone work.

In 1751 a descendant of the original founder added four new tenements; and two years afterwards his son repaired the old building, added two new tenements, and thus completed the original benevolent plan. The apartments are clean and comfortable; the pensioners receive fifteen shillings each per month, a ton of coals and a new gown per annum; and the presentation is still in the Plumtre family.

COLLIN'S HOSPITAL is a plain brick elevation of two stories, with fourteen windows in each row in front, a doorway of cut stone with niche and ornaments over it. It stands in Friar Lane, surrounded

surrounded by a small court and low brick wall; and is really an ornament to that part of the town.

It was founded by the will of Mr. Abel Collin in 1704 for the reception of 24 poor men and women, each having two comfortable apartments and two shillings per week, with a ton and a half of coals per annum.

Of other charities of an old standing, our limits will only permit us to name WILLOUGHBY'S HOSPITAL in the Fishergate; GREGORY'S HOSPITAL in Houndsgate; WOOLLEY'S BEADHOUSE in Becklane; HANDLEYS HOSPITAL in Stoney Street; BILBY'S ALMS HOUSES in Coal-pit Lane; LABOURERS' HOSPITAL on Tollhouse Hill; WARSARGATE HOSPITAL, &c., the whole of which afford relief to upwards of 70 poor and infirm individuals. Besides these there are the *Peckham* and *Coventry* charities, as well as several others, which, having no importance beyond their immediate locality, do not require any particular illustration here.

The WORKHOUSES are in number equal to the parishes, and are all upon a very clean and commodious scale: and it is but justice to the town at large to say that every benevolent plan or regulation for the comfort of their helpless inmates is strictly attended to, and generally followed by beneficial consequences.

The size of the *parish of St. Mary's*, now so very populous, calls perhaps for some further additions to its own; but those who have the management of it have fully availed themselves of the animadversions of *Eden*, who, in his State of the Poor written in 1795, noticed that this workhouse was surrounded by other buildings, most of which were much higher than it; so as completely to obstruct the free passage of air.

In this parish also we understand from the same author that several small donations, amounting in the whole to about 80*l.* per annum, are distributed to fit objects, not receiving parochial assistance.

But one of the greatest glories of Nottingham, is its GENERAL INFIRMARY,

INFIRMARY, a most spacious, and indeed elegant building, and noble institution, which, as Throsby observes, takes under its healing wings, the sick, poor, and lame, from any county or district; shedding a most comfortable influence around; and forming a splendid ornament to the town.

The first stone was laid on the 12th of February 1781, at the south east buttment, accompanied by a series of silver coins of the present reign, and with a brass plate whose inscription at some distant day may prove, to future antiquaries, the benevolence of Englishmen in the 18th and 19th centories:

> "General Hospital near Nottingham; open to the Sick and Poor of any Country. The Corporation gave the ground for the said Hospital."

On digging for the foundation, some human bones were found with a sword and target, broken spears, &c.

The building consists of a centre, two advancing wings, and two ends; it has thirteen windows in a range, and is two stories high; and from the south east front a most extensive prospect of the vale of Belvoir presents itself. It is most airily situated on all sides, and is surrounded with pleasant walks and gardens; for which the duke of Newcastle benevolently gave some ground in addition to that presented by the corporation.

It has been observed that this hospital may boast of two things: first, of being an eleemosynary asylum to the indigent and impotent; and, secondly, that it is built upon the identical spot, (or near to it,) on which the unfortunate Charles first fixed his royal standard; but after a very careful survey and examination, for which we were indebted to the polite attention of Mr. Stretton the architect, and to the laudable pride of the matron who was anxious to exhibit every thing concerning it, we may fairly say that this benevolent and liberal institution has much more to boast of.

At present there are considerable additions making to it, by which two spacious and airy day rooms, four additional wards,

a more commodious shop and store room, and several other conveniences, will be obtained.*

In these additions, many very useful improvements are taking place, particularly in the mode of ventilation and of the conveyance of water; both of which are well worthy the examination of persons superintending similar establishments, or indeed any buildings on an extensive scale, being both mechanically and philosophically novel and correct. The internal cleanliness is highly deserving of praise; and the disposition of the dispensary, and other offices, is a pattern for all institutions of this nature.

The Nobility and Gentry of the county and town have come forward in the handsomest manner to execute the various offices; and the Medical gentlemen all contribute their services gratuitously. The benefactions, legacies, and annual subscriptions, are on a very handsome scale; and it is worth notice that the annual expense, upon a fair principle, can never well exceed the annual income; for every subscriber can only recommend a certain number of patients in proportion to his subscription, though the scale of recommendation is very liberal, as subscribers of two guineas annually can recommend two in-patients, and three out-patients, in the course of a year; and these may be from any distant county, even if brought here merely for the purpose of cure.

The benefactions have already been very numerous: amongst which one generous *unknown* individual subscribed the sum of 10000*l.* stock, equal to 6337*l.* sterling!†

At the close of the year ending March 1811, the benefactions amounted to 14,785*l.*; the legacies to 4422*l.*; and the receipts

* Vide General Report for 1811.

† Other benefactions were, from Mrs. E. Bainbridge of Woodborough, 1000*l*; a friend 400*l*; Duke of Newcastle, and John Morris, Esq. of Nottingham 300*l.* each; and many of 200*l.* and 100*l.* from the neighbouring Nobility and Gentry. There have also been several legacies of 500*l.*; besides smaller sums.

ceipts in that year, including 1000*l.* balance, and 947*l.* annual subscriptions, amounted to 3823*l.*

In February 1812, there were 49 in-patients, and 309 out-patients, then on the hospital books: but the total number relieved, from the first opening up to March 1811, were 9825 in-patients, 24401 out-patients, making a total of 33926!!!

The LUNATIC ASYLUM, both for paupers, and for those who can pay for admission, is upon a very considerable scale, and is amongst the first completed under the act of Parliament; having been opened for admission on the 12th of February of the present year (1812) when nine were admitted from Nottingham, and there were also 52 recommendations of cases on the books.

This building which is erected upon an airy scite in the parish of Sneinton, at a very short distance from the town, and placed so as to form an ornamental object, has been very justly said to possess a decided superiority in its general design, and in the distribution of its arrangement, over any other building of the same nature yet established. It is built on land purchased by the voluntary subscribers for that purpose, and its general plan is to provide separate and distinct wards for male and female lunatics, distributed into classes; as well as for the convalescents and incurables; and also separate and distinct airing grounds for the male and female convalescents.

This plan has been completely executed, by a building of five stories in height, two of which are in the basement, but sufficiently light and airy for every purpose of health and comfort. Each story has a long and airy corridore, which leads to each range of cells, airy, cool, and comfortable, and affording accommodation for fifty-six patients. The style of architecture is extremely plain; yet the front elevation may be considered sufficiently handsome to render it an object of beauty from any point of view.

In order for its support, much has already been done by voluntary contribution; but much yet remains to be done, not

only to pay off the debt already contracted, of which about 4700*l.* was borrowed from the funds of the General Infirmary, but also for its annual support and expenditure.

The patients form three classes; persons who can pay for their care and maintenance in proportion to their ability; persons admitted on the payment of very small sums; and paupers, for whom a certain rate shall be paid by the county.

The justices of the county, and also of Nottingham, benefactors of 20 guineas, and annual subscribers of 2 guineas, are governors; and all elections of officers, &c. are to be done by ballot.

The donations in 1811 amounted to 1764*l.*: legacies to 2497*l.* and the annual subscriptions to about 350*l.*

The PUBLIC SCHOOLS in Nottingham are fully sufficient in number, for the size of the town; and from the recent judicious regulations which have taken place in several instances, they are likely in future to answer every benevolent purpose for which they were founded.

The FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL was founded by Agnes Mellors in 1513, a vowess, often called Lady Mellors, but only the widow of a wealthy bell-founder of Nottingham.* This school, which is in the parish of St. Mary's, had almost fallen into disuse, as the knowledge of Latin is no longer necessary to enable a man to say his prayers, which was the case in the days of Catholicism when this school was founded, though but a very few years before the Reformation; of course, few scholars were in the habit of attending; but by a recent and judicious regulation of the corporation, in 1807, sixty boys are now to be admitted and taught not only Greek and Latin, and the classics, but also English, writing, and arithmetic, *gratis*.

There is also an excellent CHARITY SCHOOL, a neat little building, clean and comfortable, and ornamented in the front with the usual statues of a boy and girl of the foundation. It is airily situated in the High Pavement, on a piece of ground given

* Dering, p. 154.

given by a benevolent attorney, a Mr. William Thorpe. It is entirely supported by voluntary contribution, and maintains fifty poor children of both sexes, who are instructed in religion, and in English reading. Forty of these are clothed in the blue coat costume, and the whole of them have an air of health and happiness.

There are several other schools supported on liberal principles; one in St. Mary's parish educates thirty poor children; another in the same parish, supported by a private society, has long been established for the education of sixteen; the *Protestant Dissenters* support one for the poor children of their own persuasion, who are clothed and plainly educated; and a *Church of England Sunday School* has been for some time in existence, whose receipts in 1812 amounted to 127*l.*

The *Sunday Schools* in Nottingham, supported by all classes, are, indeed, on a very extensive scale, though at a small expense, as the young people of each persuasion, and in very respectable situations in life, dedicate themselves sedulously to the education of the children, who amount to upwards of 1500 of each sex, or about 3000 in the whole.

The County Hall was, in Dering's time in the middle of the last century, a ruinous disgraceful building. This, however, has been replaced by a very commodious and handsome edifice erected by the county in 1770, on the High Pavement, and in the immediate vicinity of St. Mary's church. The ground on which it stands was expressly excepted from the jurisdiction of the town by the charter of Henry the sixth, and still continues so. It has an extensive hall with two convenient courts, and all the necessary apartments for the accommodation of the judges, jury rooms, &c.; and is ornamented with some old standards of the duke of Kingston's light horse, in the rebellion of 1745, and with pictures of their present Majesties given by the earl of Manvers.

The Town Hall, for the town and county of the town of Nottingham, is a large building three stories high, with the

town prison on the ground floor, and a large flight of steps at one end, leading to the first floor, commodiously and handsomely fitted up for the various necessary purposes. It stands near the scite of the old Weekday Cross.

In 1811, the annual statement of the county rate of the county and town of Nottingham was 2631*l.*, which was all expended, except a small balance of 177*l.*

The COUNTY PRISON, which formerly was under the ancient county hall, is now behind it; and, being on the slope of the rock on its southern face, is not only airily situated, but has also some very extensive views from its upper apartments, from one of which, some years ago, a prisoner jumped in hopes of escaping, though at a height of 70 feet. This gaol is clean, and airy; and, we understand, under excellent modern regulations; which were certainly very necessary, when we consider its state when the benevolent *Howard* was collecting his materials for a History of the Prisons in England. There are some small benefactions existing for the relief of poor debtors; but, in Mr. Howard's time, their principal relief was from a collection raised by a person employed to go round the country at Christmas, which amounted at that time to about 35*l.* Mr. Howard complained much of a man who, in the year 1776, having obtained his Majesty's pardon, was nevertheless detained in gaol for a considerable time for the paltry sum of about fifty shillings for office and gaol fees.

The TOWN AND COUNTY GAOL is also as commodious as circumstances will admit of, though much is yet wanted to render it complete. At Mr. Howard's first visit, he complained much of the state of its dungeons and other rooms; but at his second considerable improvements had taken place. There is now a total separation of Felons and Debtors; and there is a commodious bath, which is extremely conducive to the health and cleanliness of the unfortunates confined here. A small sum is annually collected in the town for the relief of poor debtors.

The TOWN BRIDEWELL, which stands in St. John's Street, has also

also begun to derive some benefit from the liberal active philanthropy of the present day. Indeed it is to be hoped that in a few years, the general melioration of all places of confinement, as far as is consistent with security, will cause Mr. Howard's *horrible*, yet unfortunately too accurate, statement, to be considered as a kind of Romance. It never can be too deeply impressed upon the minds of all those who have any power or superintendance over those places, that the separation of the sexes, the separation of young from hardened offenders, and the separation of debtors from felons, are objects both of the greatest physical and moral importance. When all these things are sufficiently attended to, with the addition of wholesome food, clean lodging, airy exercising grounds, good sewers, and a supply of water, with good workshops and incitements to industry, still will our prisons be places of punishment to those unhappily confined in them; and with these additions they are also more likely to become places of amendment.

The MARKET PLACE of Nottingham has long been admired. Even in the reign of Henry the eighth, Leland says, "the Market place and streate, both for the buildings on the side of it, for the very great wideness of this streete, and the cleane paving of it, is the most fairest without exception of all England;" and it is now certainly one of the most spacious in the kingdom, surrounded with excellent houses, and having every accommodation for its various purposes. At the upper end of it formerly stood the *Malt Cross;* but that, with the other crosses, is now down.

It is now the place for the two weekly markets on Wednesday and Saturday; on the former of these days the ancient beast market from St. Peter's is held here; but on the Saturdays, which are the principal days, the mayor and corporation have very judiciously ordered the cattle market to be held on another spot.

The supply of this market, particularly on Saturday, is very abundant in every necessary of life; but the prices are consi-

dered as rather extravagant in many instances, and very far indeed above that scale which Dering has given us in his book: and nothing can be more amusing or interesting to a stranger than to go through this market, and observe the extraordinary neatness and regularity of those who have brought their various articles for sale; but more particularly to see the young females of the town, many of them of the most respectable families in the place, who are not ashamed to put on their marketing dress, and, with their little baskets, to make such purchases as they can conveniently carry. It is not unfair either to remark, that the stranger cannot fail to be struck with the neatness and beauty, which he will meet at every step, and that in a greater proportion than the Editor of these sheets recollects ever to have met with in any other town, even where they have been famed for the charms of the sex.

The NEW EXCHANGE stands at the east end of the Market place; it is a very handsome brick building of four stories in height, erected by the corporation in the early part of the last century, of 123 feet in length, and the front supported by a range of stone pillars forming a spacious open parade, with the SHAMBLES partly under, and partly behind it; which, however, are so insufficient for the demand on market days, that 80 stalls are sometimes set out in the Market place, or rather in the *Smithy Row*. It was intended at first to ornament the front with the statues of George the first, and the then Prince and Princess of Wales; but the niches still remain untenanted. There is, however, a well executed figure of Justice on the top. The apartments above stairs are airy and spacious, and neatly, though plainly, fitted up for public purposes and various corporation and election uses: there has also been for some time a subscription news room fitted up in one of them, called the Exchange Hall.

The FAIRS at Nottingham are three annually; these we believe take place on the seventh of March, the second and third of April, and the second of October called Goose fair. All of

these are for cattle and horses, and the latter also particularly for cheese.*

The TRADE AND MANUFACTURES of Nottingham have long been very extensive. Here are several mills for spinning silk and cotton, and for twisting do; silk mills worked by horses; lace workers; stocking weavers; a white lead work; a foundery for cast iron ware from the pigs brought from Coalbrook dale; dying and bleach works; British lace by framework; breweries; malthouses; tanneries, &c. The glasshouses, however, which formerly existed are now laid aside; and the pottery is also very trifling.

Great changes have at different times taken place with respect to the trade of this town; and it is a curious fact that little more than a century ago, though then a manufacturing place, it was dependent upon the neighbouring towns, and even villages, for grocery, drapery, &c. though it is now the general depot for a very extensive neighbourhood. Much of its modern improvement must, however, be dated from even so late a period as that in which its water communications were improved by the various cuts in its vicinity.

It is said that, as early as the commencement of the twelfth century, the DYEING TRADE was an object of importance to Nottingham; but it declined in the reign of Mary, and is now scarcely worth mentioning, though so long a source of opulence and independence to many families in the place.

The STOCKING MANUFACTORY seems to have begun to fill up its place soon after, as the stocking frame was invented in the reign of Elizabeth; yet, in 1641, there were only two frame work knitters in Nottingham.

The usefulness and simplicity of the present machines are astonishing; and it is well known, that it was invented by William

* The Agricultural Survey says, that the fair on the second of April is moveable, if it falls on the Monday after Palm Sunday; and we have seen it stated that these fairs are on the Friday after January 13th, 7th and 8th of March, Thursday before Easter, and 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, of October.

liam Lee, who was M. A. of St. John's college at Cambridge, born at Calverton according to Thoroton, but at Woodborough, a village about seven miles distant from Nottingham, according to Dering's account, who records a traditional story of him that he was heir to a pretty freehold estate, and being deeply in love with a young person to whom he paid his addresses, but whom he always found more intent upon her knitting, than to his vows and protestations, he was induced to contrive a machine, which should render the mode of knitting by hand entirely useless. We have, however, seen it stated differently; that Mr. Lee was a poor curate, and married; and his wife being obliged to occupy herself industriously with knitting, which interfered very much with the attention necessary to her family, he was prompted to attempt the invention of the present complex, yet simple, machinery. It is certain that he or his brother exhibited the loom before queen Elizabeth; but his invention being despised in his native country, he went to France with several English workmen, where he was patronized by Henry the fourth. The murder of that monarch overturned all his hopes of success; he died of grief and chagrin at Paris, and his few surviving workmen returned to England. After some time, a company was established in London; but no trade of this kind, where *small* capitals are sufficient, can possibly flourish under a monopoly; of course even the London dealers in hosiery found it more profitable to purchase their goods in the country, than from the manufacturers of the metropolis; and the trade has thus been enabled, for many years, to find its own level.

We have not been able to procure any recent estimate of the number of frames employed in this manufacture; but Dering says, that in the middle of the last century, there were 1200 employed in Nottingham alone, to which may be added about 400 assistant workmen occupied in making the various parts of the frame manufacture, and also a great number of winders, sizers, and seamers, &c. The number at present, however, notwithstanding

withstanding the circumscribed state of our commerce, must be much greater.

The BONE LACE TRADE was once a source of profitable industry to a number of females; it afterwards declined; but we believe that the *frame lace* would soon have enabled us to rival the continent in that article, had it not been for the late unhappy disturbances. It is evident, indeed, that if the enemies of England had it in their power to stir up any part of her populace, to illegal deeds, *this* is one point to which they would naturally direct their attention; and it is not impossible that some future investigation may shew that French influence and corruption were at the bottom of these riots, not only for the purposes of general injury, but with a reference to this branch of trade in particular.

The MALTING BUSINESS, as we have already noticed under the general head of the county, has long been a source of profit to the town; indeed, ever since the introduction of that trade into the kingdom, at the period of the Norman conquest. The goodness of the barley, in the vale of Belvoir, has been stated as one cause of the goodness of the Nottingham malt and ale, which even Stukely the antiquary did not disdain to mention, saying, "it was highly valued for softness and pleasant taste:" much also may have been owing to the great depth, and consequent coolness, of their ale cellars, many of them having 36 steps in depth. Some of the other manufactories, already noted, have indeed fallen into decay, particularly the *Tanning* business; and the *Iron trade*, which, with the exception of a foundery already mentioned, is completely removed to districts better fitted for it.

The POPULATION of Nottingham has been increasing gradually ever since the reign of Edward the Confessor, when the number of men stated, amounted to 192; and if we allow each man to have had a house, and the whole inhabitants to have averaged at 5½ per house, the population must have been about 1056: except in this instance, that, after the Norman conquest,

the number of men were only 186, which, at the same proportion, would give a population of about 748.

It has been said that a decrease took place in the reign of Henry the eighth; but that is merely an inference drawn from an act of Parliament having passed, obliging the towns of Nottingham, and some others, to repair their ruinous houses, and bad pavements; and, therefore, cannot be taken as an absolute fact.

The earliest authentic account we have of the population in the last century, is from Dering, pages 13 and 14, where it appears that the houses amounted to 1806, and the inhabitants to 9790, besides 200 in workhouses, gaols, and hospitals, equal to a total of 10,010: this was in 1739; and by a census of the births and burials for the seven preceding years, it appears that the former amounted to 2694, the latter to 2331, giving an increase of 363, independent of new comers.*

By another account taken in 1751, the number of inhabitants is estimated at 10,061, being only an increase of 51 in the course of twelve years.

By a census taken in 1779, the parishes were stated to contain as follows:

Houses.

* In the year 1744, Dering produces several instances of longevity, proving the general healthfulness of this town; two of his instances may amuse.

"Goody Ryley, till within three days of her death, being in St. Mary's workhouse, if she was not pleased with her usage, would *every* now and then, take a ramble on foot to London, where she had some of her children settled; and if they gave her the least offence, she would as readily trot down again to Nottingham; she was above 100 years of age."

After this *extraordinary* instance of an old woman, whom it was difficult to please, the doctor adverts to a lady to whom he seems to have paid more personal attention, as he speaks of her in the present tense; this was "Goody Gedling, without Chapel bar," who, according to his observations, "sells ale, walks about, brews herself, and spins, *is extremely nimble tongued*, and has a voice very shrill; by her countenance one would judge her not to be above 70.!"

	Houses.	*Families.*	*Souls.*
St. Mary's	2314	2584	12637
St. Peter's	446	497	2445
St. Nicholas's	431	475	2502
Brewhouse Yard, near the castle, Extra-parochial			127
	3191	3556	17,711

and at that period, the burials, from 1772 to 1778 inclusive, amounted to 3903.

The return of 1801 gave 4977 houses, containing 6707 families; the males were 13729; the females 15132; making a general total of 28661; of whom 11698 were employed in trade, manufactures, and handicraft, and 262 in agriculture. The estimate of the parishes was, St. Mary's 22,654; St. Nicholas's 3.415; St. Peter's 2,732; and Extra-parochial only 60, being only one half of the preceding census.

By the returns of 1811, the males now amount to 15,537; the females to 18,826; making a total of 34363, or double the population of 1779, a period of only 32 years. It appears, however, that there has been a decrease both of baptisms and burials in Nottingham, during the last year, though not to any very considerable amount.*

Though

* Those who chuse to speculate on the chances of life and death may receive some information, by comparing the following account of the births and burials in this town, with the sum total of population:

	Males.	*Females.*	*Total of Bap.*	*Total of Bur.*
St. Mary's Baptized	528	444	967	
Buried	280	299		579
St. Nicholas's Baptized	48	48	96	
Buried	54	59		113
St. Peter's Baptized	36	30	66	
Buried	36	42		78
			1128	770

Here there is an extraordinary difference between the births and deaths, and in a proportion unknown in former times; but we conceive, that no one will

Though much of this increase must have arisen from the increase of commerce and manufactures; yet we must allow some merit to the healthy situation, and to the general salubrity of the air. By a statement kept by Dr. Clarke, of Nottingham, for 1810, it appears that the thermometer was at its greatest altitude on the second of September, being 82° with an easterly wind; its greatest depression on the 20th of February, being 14° with the wind at N. E. Its greatest variation in 24 hours was on the 19th and 20th of February, from 16° to 46°.

The annual mean of the barometer was 29,83 inches; its greatest height being on the 31st of December 30,50, the wind at N. E. and its lowest state on the 19th of February 28.73, wind at S. W.

There were in the year 269 dry, and 96 wet days; the greatest quantity of rain falling in July, equal to 3,85 inches, and the smallest quantity in September, only 0,62 inches; the total quantity, during the year, 23,15 inches.

There

will be at a loss to account for it, after reading the following statement from a recent periodical work.

In 1810 an epidemic small pox raged at Nottingham, 460 had the infection naturally, of whom 131 died; 20 children were inoculated with the variolous matter, of whom 1 died.

During the eight months that this epidemic was in all its virulence, 1012 were vaccinated, 86 of whom had been exposed to the variolous infection some days previous to vaccination. Of these 86, there were 33 who escaped the small pox totally; on 46 of the number the small pox and cow pox acted together at the same time; but, in all these cases, the small pox was mild. In seven only the cow pox failed of effect, and the epidemic proceeded as usual.

The conclusion drawn from this, was that 926 were probably saved from the infection, of whom 262 would otherwise naturally have died in the short space of eight months!

By a report of vaccination in that year, it appears that up to that period 2784 persons had been vaccinated at Nottingham, out of which one only took the small pox, and died; whilst in that number of patients in the natural way the proportion of deaths would have been 600; and with inoculation 27. Vide Monthly Magazine.

There were 143 winds between N. and N. E.; 79 between E. and S. E.; 157 between S. and S. W.; and 88 from W. to N. W.

The STATE OF THE POOR is at all times an object of consequence, but more particularly so in a large manufacturing town like Nottingham. The public workhouses and charities we have already noticed; but it might perhaps be of singular use, if a house of General Industry were established, which Eden, in his work on the Poor, says was in contemplation some years before he wrote, but failed on account of the difficulty of uniting men of different party principles, even in a work of benevolence.

At the period when Eden wrote, there were no less than fifty-one friendly societies;* and he also takes a very particular notice of a most benevolent and rational one, called the *Charitable Society*, the principal intention of which is to extend relief to such cases, as it is impossible to alleviate under the general poor laws. In pursuance of this plan the funds have been faithfully employed, as far as their general amount will admit of, and principally to the following objects; to strangers in distress, and to persons labouring under disease or other casual misfortune. This has been done, either by loans, by donations, or both, as circumstances required. The society has also paid, in some instances, small annual subscriptions to Sunday schools; and they have even paid for the education of individuals in poor and deserving families. The Quakers were the original patrons of this benevolent plan, in which they were soon joined by others; but it was left principally under their management.

In 1803 (than which we have not been able to procure a more recent account) the *parish rates* of St. Mary's amounted to 8895*l.*; St. Nicholas' to 2255*l.*; and St. Peter's to 1467*l.*; at which time, houses were rated from 11*s.* 8*d.* to 13*s.*; and land from 17*s.* 10*d.* to 19*s.* 6*d.* in the pound.

These rates, however, must be enormously augmented, when we consider that the number of poor relieved in the first week of

* But then there were 152 alehouses!

of January 1812, was 6288, in 2268 families, and on the 30th of the same month, 4248 families, amounting to 15350; so that in one month, the number of paupers was doubled, and actually amounted to nearly one half of the population.

If any thing *could* convince the labouring poor, of the impropriety of popular commotion, we think this would be sufficient; for though the manufactures of Nottingham must undoubtedly have suffered from the present restricted state of commerce, yet that effect had been fully produced, before the first week in January. To what then, it may be asked, are we to attribute this extraordinary increase? To the riots! most certainly; as they have obliged the employers to stop their works, lest their property should be destroyed. This needs no comment.

In referring more particularly to the PRESENT STATE of Nottingham, we shall have an opportunity of noticing some points that did not regularly come under any of the preceding heads; and here we may first consider its *progressive improvement*. Leland, speaking of it generally, tells us that "it is both a large towne, and welle builded for tymbre and plaister, and standeth stately on a clyning hille." Of these buildings of "tymbre," few, if any, are now remaining; but it is evident, that all the advantages arising from its situation, were not then attended to; for, even so late as the middle of the seventeenth century, we are told that the stranger, especially in the winter, found the Trent lanes very dirty, and after he had passed the Leen bridge, the very foot of the town, called the Bridge End, deep and miry. At his first entrance, continues Dering, into the narrow passage which used to lead between two high precipices* to the upper part of the town, he was, from a parcel of little rock houses, if the wind was Northerly, saluted with a volley of suffocating smoke, caused by the burning of gorse and tanners' knobs. Every body, he adds, knows the fragrancy and cleanliness of tanners, fell mongers, and curriers, many of which were then dispersed all over the town; the greatest thoroughfare

* Query, the Hollow Stone?

roughfare in the town, Bridlesmith Gate, was then lined on both sides with the roughest kind of blacksmiths; the market place, though spacious, yet was paved but on one side, and on the other, called the Sands, it was very miry. That place near St. Peter's church, where the Monday market was afterwards projected, was not paved; and part of it was so boggy, that there was a bridge of planks laid across it with a single rail, over which it was extremely dangerous to pass in the night time. The whole of that quarter was dirty in the extreme, and there was one continued swamp from Listergate to the Lene.

At that time, indeed, the houses were not only of wood and plaister, but the roofs were thatched with straw or reeds; and we are told the first tiled house in Nottingham was one in the Long Row, which had formerly been the Unicorn Inn, the last in the row, and which had its new roof put on in 1503. The oldest brick house was the *Green Dragon*, a public house in the Long Row, of the date of 1615. Some slight improvements took place during the civil wars; but it was not until after the Restoration, that the increase of manufactures produced a considerable melioration in the style of building. Of these earlier specimens of the elegance of those days there are still some remains.

Thurland Hall is a good specimen of that style; at present it seems to contain only two thirds of the original plan, consisting only of a centre and one wing. The centre has a double row of ornamental pilasters; the door of entrance is about eight feet above the level of the street, with steps to ascend; the window frames are of heavy stone work; and there are semicircular zigzag pointed fronts to the roof. Within side, the thickness of the walls reminds the stranger of ancient dungeons; and the apartments, though spacious, are extremely gloomy. The great room is generally used, upon public occasions, as a dining apartment for the meetings of the nobility and gentry of the county.

Plumtre's House is of a more modern date, and has been much,

much, and generally, admired for its very light and elegant front, built in the Italian style of architecture; it stands on St. Mary's hill, and is a great ornament to that part of the town. Here, we cannot avoid doing Nottingham the justice of recording the sentiments of an intelligent foreigner respecting it.*

"This of all the towns I have yet seen, except London, seemed to me to be one of the best; and is undoubtedly the cleanest. Every thing here wore a modern appearance; and a large place, in the centre, scarcely yielded to a London square in point of beauty. Nottingham lies high, and makes a beautiful appearance at a distance, with its neat high houses, red roofs, and its lofty steeples."

We notice the state of *Gardening* in Nottingham and its neighbourhood, merely for the purpose of recording one or two curious facts. It appears that soon after the Conquest, as already mentioned, the king gave to William Peverell ten acres to make an apple orchard *(ad faciendum Pomarium,)* and which is supposed, from the difference in measure, to have constituted great part of the present park. We have no records, however, of its having been planted with fruit trees.

In later times, we are told by Dering, that the gardeners of Nottingham were not very skilful, until after the arrival of Marshall Tallard, and the other French officers taken at Blenheim, who "resided in Mrs. Newdigate's house in the Castle gate, and made very fine gardens there."

The *Supply of water*, a thing so necessary in a populous place, has of late been much complained of. Throsby observes, generally, that the wells, like the cellars, are often of the depth of 86 yards, and the whole descent through a body of rock: but a great part of the water which is used in Nottingham, is supplied by water works, which have become profitable to the proprietors. The editor of a recent local guide, however, complains that the place cannot boast of good, pure, and wholesome water; and he asserts "that

* Travels in England, mostly on foot, by *Moritz*, a Prussian clergyman, and a professor of one of the German universities, 1784.

"that the water with which the works on the river Lene supply not more than one third of the town, is far from being pure; but even the advantage of this the most populous parts cannot obtain; and to this cause, together with the confined state of the buildings, much of the excessive filth, misery, and disease, of the lower orders of the people, are to be attributed." We hope, however, that this picture is rather too deeply coloured: it is, at the same time, a matter of serious regret, that the disagreement of parties, as has been said, should have so far paralysed public spirit, as to have prevented some judicious, and probably efficacious, improvements lately proposed.

The *Supply of coal*, an article of such importance, may be supposed to be on a cheap and convenient scale, as Nottingham is in the immediate vicinity of very extensive coalpits; yet it has been a matter of complaint, that the increased facilities of water carriage have actually raised the price upwards of 50 per cent. This has been attributed to a "combination against the poor"; but it is more likely to have arisen from the extension of the country to be supplied, in consequence of the new canal cuts having been greater than the usual supply at the pits was equal to.

In adverting to the STATE OF SOCIETY, it is unpleasant to be obliged to remark, that a town possessing so many facilities, for promoting the comfort and happiness of its population, should yet be "so split in parties, that no measure affecting the inhabitants is allowed to be carried into execution, without undergoing a very rigorous investigation." Such was the observation of Sir F. M. Eden, in his State of the Poor; and we lament it, because, instead of leading to truth, as it might be proved to do *theoretically*, its *practical* consequences are generally so mixed with the personal feelings of party spirit, that the best measures are negatived merely because that the *question* is thereby carried for or against the opposing interests.

The prevalence of a decided party spirit in Nottingham cannot be more fully proved than by a recent fact of a news-

room being established, whose list of newspapers were published, and were *all*, if not the decided organs, at least the decided partizans, of *one side*. We will not make any observations on the *liberality* of this arrangement; it is sufficient to say, that another newsroom has been proposed, on a true liberal plan, without reference to party politics, or local prejudices. This is as it should be, and will undoubtedly accord more with the general spirit of the town; for that the *general spirit* is a liberal one, however it may have been warped by noisy or designing partizans, is evident from the unity and active benevolence so particularly displayed in several of the charitable establishments already noticed. But in Nottingham it must ever be the case, as in other places, that those *who are really liberal and candid* are silent and quiet, too often indeed supine, whilst those who make liberality of sentiment their stalking horse are at least clamorous, if not intolerant.

Whilst doing justice to the inhabitants at the present day, we must not, however, forget an ancient distich:

> "Non nisi confingam, possum laudare Nottingham,
> Gens fœtet atque focus, sordidus ille locus."

And which has been, though not very elegantly, translated:

> "I cannot without lye and shame,
> Commend the town of Nottingham,
> The People and the fuel st———
> The place as sordid as a Sink!"

This opprobrium, if it ever had truth on its side, is now completely done away; let us then turn to more agreeable subjects. That the state of genteel society here has long been on a fashionable scale is evident from the statement of Dering, that, in the middle of the last century, there were 400 saddle horses, above 130 coach, chaise, and team horses, 11 gentlemen's coaches and chariots, a considerable number of chaises and chairs,

chairs, besides five *hackney* glass coaches, one chariot, and several chaises and chairs on the same principle.*

The ASSEMBLIES of Nottingham are, as in all other places, the resort of the young and gay, who go to see, and be seen; and also of those, who, having played their matrimonial cards well in early life, are now content to sit down to a game of sober whist or quadrille. There was a distinction in former times, that certainly trenched much upon the harmony of society, in having two separate assemblies, for the two separate classes of

* If we go further back, however, to the beginning of the sixteenth century only, we must form a curious idea of the state of manners, from the dress of an *alderman's* sister, who, dying in 1524, left in his will, the following

"Item. I give to my sister, Margaret Banks, every year, a garment of the price of 3s. 4d. during her life, as need requires, and a pair of shoes, a smoke, and a kerchief of 8d. price, and every quarter of a year, 2d. and a roome in my bede house, like as other my bede-folkes have"—so that if Mrs. Margaret Banks had no more clothes than those left by the worthy alderman, she must have been *nearly* as thinly clad as some of our fashionable belles of the present day.

In examining the various circumstances peculiar to this place, in ancient days, we find a proverb recorded by Fuller:

"The little smith of Nottingham,
Who doth the work that no man can."

He thinks it means *Nobody*, or a person who never was; and adds, that the proverb, by way of sarcasm, is applied to such, who, being conceited of their skill, pretend to the atchieving of impossibilities. But Dering is of opinion, that it arose merely from the circumstance of Nottingham having, in former times, been famous for the production of the most curious articles in the iron manufacture: whilst Ray takes it literally, and supposes that there really was a "little smith," who was so very clever, that, by a kind of allowable exaggeration, he might be said to "do the work that no man could." This is all doubtless very ingenious; but if we might hazard a conjecture, it is not impossible that the lines may rather be an *Enigma* than a *Proverb*; and that the "little smith" *was a lady*, as even at the present day, in the neighbouring counties, many, though not absolutely of the *fair* sex, are employed at the Cyclopian forge. If then, this *lady* was clever as a *workman*, the whole might be a humourous allusion to her skill and to her sex.

polite and middle life. The former of these, the "Ladies' Assemblies," were held in a lofty and spacious apartment on the *Low Pavement*, fitted up with all the usual conveniencies; and the latter, the "Tradesman's Assembly," at the Thurland Hall. The assembly room on the Low Pavement still remains; but the other we believe is discontinued, as there is now a more general and liberal mixture of society.

The THEATRE is a plain building in Mary Gate, without any external decorations, but very judiciously fitted up and arranged within. A recent writer, however, has observed, that it is, perhaps, to the credit of the inhabitants that more attention has been paid to useful and charitable institutions, than to those of mere entertainment.

The RIDING SCHOOL also of the yeomanry cavalry, at the top of Castle Gate, has often been the scene of the usual equestrian and other itinerant exhibitions.

The ANNUAL RACES for the king's plate take place here in July. Formerly the course was four miles, but now only two miles, round: it is on the north side of the town, to the left of the Mansfield road; and is said to be one of the best in England, so far at least, as that it is never out of order in any kind of weather, being on a sandy soil, and having a sufficient descent. The *Race Stand*, is an elegant building of two stories in height; built by Mr. John Carr, of York, as architect, and the first stone laid by Mr. Stretton. The lower story projects some distance beyond the upper, with a ballustrade on top, and a terrace to which opens the upper room of seven windows in front. The whole of the upper part is appropriated for the company during the heats, and the lower apartments are very judiciously fitted up for refreshments.

The PUBLIC WALKS, in and about Nottingham, are very numerous, though there is none that can be considered as the public Mall. The Castle terrace, and the park, have been already described, and the meadows which extend along the banks of the Trent are in many spots peculiarly pleasant, from the very charming prospects which they command. These, with the

others

others called the "Burgesses Grounds," are much frequented; and to these we must add the walks to Wilford and Clifton, and to Colwick, where there is a spring, formerly in great repute. The whole of the scenery is pleasing, and much enlivened by the very frequent passage of commercial craft, on the Trent and the other canal cuts.

Another favourite walk is to St. Ann's Well, about two miles distant, at the foot of a hill, not many years ago covered with trees, and called "Nottingham Coppices." This is, however, now entirely cleared, inclosed, and cultivated; though the old name still remains. This hill, or part of it at least, belongs to the burgesses. The well itself is covered by an arched stone roof, but of rude workmanship; and has formerly been often used as a cold bath; Throsby says, "it will kill a toad." Even now rheumatic patients derive some benefit from its application. The house of entertainment is near the well; and they are still surrounded by a few trees, which add much to the beauty of the place in a summer evening. The story of this place having been a sequestered haunt of Robin Hood is most probably a fable; though certainly he may have been there; but as for the cap, and part of his chair, or at least those things shewn for them, it would be absurd to place any dependence upon their *authenticity*, as relics, after so long a period as 700 years. *Brome*, who made a tour in 1700, says, "Strangers are placed in the chair, a cap put on their heads, &c. when they receive the freedom:"—in short it is nothing more than a second edition of the *Horns* at Highgate. Dering, indeed, very properly considers the whole as the artifice of some former publican, and which was so profitable as to be retained, bringing great numbers, as at the present day, to spend their money in holiday times: he adds, "for at those times, great numbers of young men bring their sweethearts to this well, and give them a treat; and the girls think themselves ill used, if they have not been saluted by their lovers in Robin Hood's chair;" so that it appears to be a cure, or at least a palliative, for love, as well as for sore eyes and rheumatism. The house is built on the scite of

an ancient chapel, and part of the east wall is incorporated in the building; so that we may suppose Robin Hood's relics to be no older than the Reformation, when the miraculous legends of Monkery ceased to have their attraction, and the well would most probably have been deserted without the assistance of Robin, and some stout Nottingham ale. Those who wish to know further particulars may consult Dering, page 78.

About a furlong from the well, *was* the Shepherd's race, a maze or labyrinth cut in the turf, on the summit of a gentle hill. It was on what was once a common belonging to Sneinton parish, given to them by the family of Pierrepoint; but the recent inclosures have completely destroyed every vestige of it. It was 17 or 18 yards square; at the angles were four projections, facing the four cardinal points; and to follow it through all its windings would have been a pretty smart run. Stukely thinks it to have been *Roman;* others suppose it to have been made by the priests of St. Anne's chapel, for the sake of exercise; but as the slightest vestiges of it are no longer in existence, it is unnecessary to examine its history at greater length.

The Caves of Sneinton, (illustrated by a plate,) though in a parish distinct from Nottingham, may yet be properly noticed in this place, from their very close vicinity to the town. Throroton, indeed, says, that Sneinton Lordship (Snotington or Notington, as it is called in the *Magna Britannia*, and which serves as an additional proof of the probability of a conjecture formerly started respecting its name,) is a member of St. Mary's, Nottingham, and may now be almost considered as locally united to it. It is a distinct parish, or chapelry, in the deanery of Nottingham; and the present ancient chapel dedicated to St. Stephen stands upon the summit of the excavated rock, surrounded by a burying ground: and the chapel is small and low, partly in the Gothic style, but having nothing to recommend it particularly to notice, except the very extensive prospect over the vale of Belvoir, and even as far as the "Leicestershire forest rock," at a distance of twenty miles. From this point

Engraved by J. Greig from a Drawing by the Rev.d J. Sweete

for the Beauties of England & Wales.

EXCAVATIONS,
Snainton,
Nottinghamshire.

London. Published by Verner, Hood & Sharpe, Poultry. Dec.r 1.1810

EXCAVATIONS
at Pratem
Nottinghamshire

point of view also the spectator looks down upon Colwick Hall, the seat of the Musters family, on the banks of the winding Trent.

It was originally crown land; but king John granted it to William de Briwere; from whom it went, in the reign of Edward the first, to Tibetot, and was held of him at the same time by Robert Pierpoint, by the service of a pair of gloves, or one penny, though fairly valued at 26*l.* 3*s.* It has continued ever since in that family, who, as we have observed, gave the common near to St. Anne's well to the parish.

The village itself is rural, at present in some measure romantic; has a number of pleasant villas and cottages, and has long been famous for a race of dairy people, who make a very pleasant kind of soft summer cheese.

Great part of the village, indeed, consists of the habitations within the rock, many of which have staircases that lead up to gardens on the top, and some of them hanging on shelves on its sides. To a stranger it is extremely curious to see the perpendicular face of the rock with doors and windows in tires, and the inhabitants peeping out from their dens, like the inmates of another world; in fact, if it was not *at home*, and therefore *of no value*, it would, without doubt, have been novelized and melodramatized, until all the fashionable world had been mad for getting under ground. The coffeehouse, and ale houses, cut out of the rock, are the common resort of the holiday folks; indeed the coffeehouse is not only extremely pleasant from its garden plats, and arbours in front, but also extremely curious from its great extent into the body of the rock, where visitors may almost choose their degree of temperature on the hottest day in summer.

Without going into all the minutiæ of Corporation squabbles, which are seldom interesting beyond the locality of the borough itself, it is enough to notice of the MUNICIPAL HISTORY of Nottingham, that it was anciently governed by two bailiffs, coroners, and a common council; who were empowered by Edward the

the first to choose a mayor. Henry the sixth made it a county of itself; and it has now seven wards, with each an alderman, out of whom the mayor is always chosen. These wards are, *Chapel ward*, on the western side of the town; *Castle ward*, in the vicinity of the castle; *Market ward*, including the market place, and the Long Row and lanes to the north of it; *North ward*, which embraces the north east division of the town; *Bridge ward*, between St. Mary's and the Lene, and the lanes and streets to the eastward; *Middle ward*, which is very small, to the east of Market ward, and between Gridle Smith Gate, and Fletchergate; and *Monthall ward*, to the south east of the latter, and containing the Low, and part of the High Pavements. Each alderman, though possessing a peculiar jurisdiction over, is not obliged to reside in, his ward; for, indeed, his jurisdiction may properly be said, as a justice of the peace, to extend to the whole town.

At present, the corporation consists of a mayor, six aldermen, a recorder, two sheriffs, two coroners, two chamberlains, and a common council composed of twenty-four burgesses, eighteen of whom are chosen by the burgesses at large, but must have served the office of sheriff, and are the senior council, whilst the remaining six are chosen the same way from the body at large, and from the junior council. These, however, have equal rights, and equal votes, except that the magistracy is filled up from the senior body. It appears, that the burgesses of Nottingham have some privileges, advantageous to the lower ranks, particularly the "Burgesses Grounds," as they are called, which may be worth about 3*l.* per annum, to about 300 of their number, to themselves during life, and to their widows. Where parties run high, it is not surprising that charges of undue partiality, in the distribution of these douceurs, should be sometimes brought forward; nor were we surprised to hear, that some attempts which were made to enclose these lands, giving the various claimants an equivalent, have hitherto been always negatived, notwithstanding the probability, that such an ar-

rangement would make the lands more valuable, and more useful to the town at large. No doubt that some of the partizans, on both sides, may have considered these grounds as very good *grounds* on which to found their plans of borough influence.*

In PARLIAMENTARY RIGHTS, the mayor and corporation, freeholders of 40*s.* per annum, eldest sons of freemen by birth, younger sons of freemen if they have served a seven years' apprenticeship any where, and freemen's apprentices, have each a vote. The ancient right was in those paying scot and lot; but Oldfield, in his History of the Boroughs, complains that the decision of the House of Commons, in 1701, which settled the present arrangement, has rendered the right of voting so complicated and open to fraud, that every freeman may qualify as many as he pleases, by surreptitious indentures of apprenticeship. He adds, however, that Nottingham is under no immediate influence, owing to the great number of electors, (about 1700;) yet complains, that the leading men of each party have formed a coalition to return one member each. This, he asserts, neutralizes the *two* votes; and he recommends that *three* should be allowed to prevent it; but, however fine this may look in theory, it is extremely probable, that those who have been witnesses to popular contests in large towns are very glad to secure peace and quiet, by any arrangement which will put a stop to scenes, where every thing is considered but *liberty and property*, both of these being very apt to suffer during the concussions of Whigs and Tories. The necessity of something of this kind at Nottingham, or some other powerful palliative, seems acknowledged by a late act of Parliament, in consequence of tumultuous proceedings in 1802, which gives a concurrent jurisdiction in this borough to the magistrates of the county at large.

The number of votes has been estimated at 1700; but it is

now

* At an election of Common Councilmen, in 1797, the corporation and candidates had the good sense to agree, that a final stop should be put to the old abuse of giving money, &c. as practised on former occasions. This may be cited as a *fair* instance of practical reform.

now probably much larger. The votes at the late election in 1807, ran for John Smith, Esq. 1047; for D. P. Coke, Esq. 787; and for Dr. Compton, 575.

With respect to BIOGRAPHY, particularly of literary characters, Nottingham has not many instances to produce. The first we find on record is

JOHN PLOUGH,* son of Christopher, and nephew to John P. rector of St. Peter's, who spent several years in acquiring academical learning at Oxford; and, in the latter end of 1543, supplicated for the degree of B. C. L. but does not appear by the University book to have obtained it. Yet, at that period, he was rector of St. Peter's, in room of his uncle, who had purchased the advowson for one turn from Thomas Hobson, the prior of Lenton monastery, in order to confer it on him. Wood says, that after this John became a zealous minister of God's word, in the time of king Edward the sixth; but being obliged to fly beyond sea, on the accession of queen Mary, he went to reside at Basil, and there wrote the following books; Apology for the Protestants, written in answer to a book against the English Protestants, that was penned and published by one Miles Hogeard, of London, hosier; a Treatise against the Mitred Man in the Popish Kingdom; and, the Sound of the doleful Trumpet.

WILLIAM BRIGHTMAN,† was bred a fellow of Queen's College, Cambridge, and afterwards beneficed at Hawnes, in Bedfordshire. He made many prophecies, and Fuller alludes to them in very quaint terms. "Sure I am that Time, and Mr. B. will expound the hardest places in the Revelation; but what credit is to be given to the latter alone I will not engage. Such, who dislike Mr. B's writing, could not but commend his evangelical living, who had so much of heaven in his heart. Walking through the vineyard of this world, he plucked and eat a few grapes, but put up none in his vessel, using wealth as if he used it not. His clay cottage did crack, and fell down in the same minute, so sudden was his death; but he who died daily, could

* Wood's Athenæ, Vol. I. p. 126. † Fuller's Worthies.

could on no day be said to die suddenly, being always prepared for his dissolution."

GILBERT WAKEFIELD, in more modern days, was a native of this town, being born in the Parsonage House of St. Nicholas, of which parish his father was rector, on the 22d of Feby. 1756. His father was of a Derbyshire family, but immediately from Staffordshire. His mother's ancestors were of Nottingham, her grandfather having been twice mayor: by an allusion made by Wakefield, in the memoirs of his own life, they were originally fishermen. It has been said in some recent publication, owing to a misinterpretation of a passage in the first volume of that life, that his mother was buried in one of the churches at Nottingham; but the fact is, she died at Hackney, in 1800, in her 79th year, and was buried at Richmond. His life is so recent, and had so little connection with his native county, that it is needless to go into further particulars, except that after leaving the academy at Warrington, he resided at Bramcote, and afterwards at Nottingham, where he attempted to establish a school, but seems to have been either unsuccessful or unsettled. As many of his cotemporaries are yet living, and as further notice might lead us into both religious and political discussions, we must refer to his own life, written by himself, which cannot fail of affording both information and amusement, to the liberal on both sides of the questions connected with this learned, though unfortunate, character.

HENRY KIRKE WHITE will long remain, his memory at least, as a proof that genius and talents will always burst through the thickest veil of obscurity. In fact, the spirit and perseverance with which he adhered to, and at last accomplished his youthful wishes, as related by Mr. Southey, are almost incredible, yet strictly true; and are, or ought to be, a proof to parents, that the early inclinations of their children ought not to be heedlessly thwarted under the name of obstinacy, where they may be the consequence of conscious genius, and of conscious worth. He has also unfortunately added another proof of the

homely

homely adage, "soon ripe, soon rotten." To dilate on the biography of him, who may have been the school companion, or college friend, of many who read these lines, must be totally unnecessary; it is pleasant to remark, however, that his memory is not forgotten, nor useless to his family, the female branches of which now superintend a very respectable boarding school in Nottingham, and who need not be ashamed to have it said, that the merits of an amiable son and brother go hand in hand with their own.

It is time now to leave Nottingham, and proceed to examine its

ENVIRONS,

with which we shall commence in a north-west direction, come round by the west, to the southern parts of the county, not confining ourselves to the exact local division of Hundreds, but adopting such a route as would most readily present itself to the observant tourist.*

BASFORD

* In the general sketch of the county, it has been stated, that there are six wapentakes or hundreds. The parishes contained in each, are as follow:

RUSHCLIFFE. Adbolton; Barton in the Beans; West Bridgeford; Bunney; Clifton; Corlinstock; Gotham; Keyworth; Keynston, an Unendowed Chapelry; East Leek; Normanton upon Soar; Plumtre; Ratcliffe upon Soar; Rempston; Ruddington, has Flawford, for the mother church; Stamford; Stanton in the Wolds; Sutton Bonington; Thorp in the Clods; Widmerpole; Wysall.

BINGHAM. Aslacton in Whatton; Bingham; East Bridgeford; Broughton Sulney; Carcolston; Cotgrave, two parishes; Colston Basset; Cropwell Bishop; Elton; Flintham; Granby; Hawkesworth; Hickling; Holme Pierpoint; Kneveton; Kinolton; Langer; Orston; Owthorp; Radcliffe upon Trent; Screveton; Tithby cum Cropwell; Whatton, containing the Chapelry of Aslacton.

NEWARK. Barnby in the Willows; North Clifton; North and South Collinghams; Cotham; Elkering; Elston; Farrington; Hawton; Kilvington; Newark; South Scarle; Shelton; Syerston Chapelry; Stanton; Stoke; Thorney; Thorp by Newark; Winthorpe.

BASSETLAW. *North Clay.* Beckingham; Boyle; Clarborough; Clayworth;

Basford is the first place, in this direction, deserving of notice; it lies in a bottom, to which you approach from the race ground, and the scenery around it, is rich in the extreme. This village, indeed, may be now said to be a town, so much is it increased of late, from the various manufactures, and the improvements consequent upon them; for here are not only corn and cotton mills, but the bleaching and dyeing branches of business have been carried on for some years, with considerable success. The church is dedicated to St. Leodigarius, and has a very handsome spire; with a nave and side aisles in very good order; but there are no ancient epitaphs, though it formerly contained many armorial bearings in the windows. The importance

worth; Cotes, a free Chapel; Everton; Gringley on the Hill; Hayton; Holte; North and South Levertons; Misson; Misterton; East and West Retfords; Rossington; Saundby; Stanley; Sturton; North and South Tilnes; Walkringham; North and South Wheatley.

South Clay. Bilsthorpe; Darleton; East Drayton; Dunham; Eaton, or Idleton; Egmanton; Gamston; Grove; Headon; Kirton; Lanehan; Lexinton, or Laxton; East Markham *cum* West Drayton; West Markham *cum* Bevercotes; Morehouse; North and South Muskham; Muskham Prebend; Rampton; East and West Truswells; Tuxford; Upton.

Hatfield. Babworth; Bevercotes; Blithe; Boughton, but no church; Bothamsell; Carlton in Lindrick; Cuckeney; Edwinstow; Elkesley; Finningley; Harworth; Houghton; Marton, here was anciently a Chapel; Mattersey; Merriel Bridge, here was a Chapel formerly; Ordsall; West Rayton; Sutton upon Lound *cum* Scrooby; Walesby; Warsop; Worksop.

Broxtow. Attenborough; Arnold; Basford; North Beeston; Bilborough; Blidworth; Bulwell; Eastwood; Griesley; Hucknall Torcard; Kirkby in Ashfield; Lenton; Linby; Mansfield; Nuthall; Radford; Selston; Strelley; Sutton upon Ashfield; Teversal; Trowell; Wollaton.

Thurgarton. Averham; Blessby; Baston Joyce *cum* Bulcote; Calverton; Caunton; Colwick; Cranwell; Edingley; Eperston; Exton or Oxton; Exton in Crepwell, a Prebend; Exton, another Prebend; Farnfield; Fledborough; Gedling; Gonalston; Hallooghton; Hockerton; Hoveringham; Kelham; Kirklington; Knesall; Lambley; Lowdham; Marnham; South Netheley; Normanton by Gresthorpe; Northwell Overhall; Ossington; Rolston; Snenton; Southwell; Sutton upon Trent; Thurgarton; Upton; Weston Hercy and Normanville; Woodborough.

importance of this place has also been kept up, by its being the seat of the *Court of the Honour of Peverel*, since it was removed from Nottingham. The High Steward, however, has the power of holding it by his deputy wherever he thinks necessary or convenient. It formerly sat every Tuesday, and has jurisdiction, not only over Nottinghamshire, (the two hundreds of Thurgarton and Broxton, being added to the others in the 25th Charles the 2d,) but also over great part of Derbyshire, and a town or two in Leicestershire. At present it sits twice in the year, to try causes as high as 50*l.*; Lord Middleton is the High Steward, and his deputy presides. A gaol for the court is situated here, which *Howard* describes as having, at the time of his writing, merely one room, with three beds; but the keeper told him, he had another little room for women prisoners, of whom there being none in his custody, he applied the apartment to domestic uses. A bowling green close by the gaol is much frequented by the inhabitants of Nottingham; and Mr. Bray observes in his tour, that the prisoners being then permitted by the gaoler to wait upon the company, their confinement was not very rigorous.

Mapperley is a hamlet in this parish, and has a handsome seat of Ichabod Wright, Esq. a banker in Nottingham. This gentleman has been very active in forming plantations, and making inclosures; and the place is now an ornament to the neighbourhood.

Bulwell is a large village, and its inhabitants are principally employed in cotton printing, and in bleaching; it has also some very extensive lime works. Part of the parish is in the forest; the rest is inclosed; but the Lordship is the property of different individuals, who are stated as forming a kind of corporation, having the appointment of their own stewards, and the perquisites of their own courts. Yet they still continue copyholders, in order to preserve their customs and forest rights. The ancient manor house, *Bulwell Woodhall*, is now the residence of a farmer; but a handsome house has been built some

some years ago, by John Newton, Esq. to which he wished to affix the name of the place; it happens, however, unfortunately to have acquired the appellation of "Pye-wipe-Hall," so that *Bulwell Hall* is almost obsolete.

NUTHALL stands a short distance from Bulwell; the village is very small, but has a neat and well preserved church, dedicated to St. Patrick, with a handsome tower, and two aisles. Here were, formerly, several ancient monuments of the family of *Boun*; and there are also some modern ones, but not of particular consequence. Some of the armorial bearings of the Strelleys, and other families, yet remain in the windows.

But the greatest beauty of the place is the *Temple*, the seat of the Hon. Henry Sedley, formerly *Vernon*, but who took this name in consequence of his marriage with the only daughter of the late Sir Charles Sedley, Bart.* This seat of *Nuthall Temple*, stands on an extensive plain, near to the village, and has a spacious paddock connected with it, but without any of the higher embellishments of park or garden scenery. The house is a square, with two low wings, and a handsome portico in front, consisting of six lofty pillars, with a neat pediment; and a light ballustraded range of steps. The roof is pitched pretty high, with a lofty dome in the centre, surrounded with an airy ballustrade. The visitor first enters a magnificent hall, supported by detached columns of the composite order, lighted from the dome, and elegantly decorated. The dome within

* Of this family was Sir Charles Sedley, in the reign of Charles the second, noted for his gallantry, and particularly mentioned in Grammont's Memoirs of the English Court. Dissipation, however, was then fashionable; but in spite of court intrigue, Sir Charles shewed himself an honest patriot at the Revolution, when he was very active against James the second, humourously observing, that he should do his utmost to make his Majesty's daughter a queen, as the king had made *his* a Countess; alluding to her being made Countess of Dorchester. She was no beauty. Charles once said, his brother had her by way of penance; yet such was James's attachment, that he would not part with her, except at the strong remonstrances of the queen and priest, against whom she had employed the whole force of her ridicule.

displays a profusion of ornamental fancy work, and has a light gallery supported by the pillars of the hall. On entrance, a *Bacchus*, of elegant workmanship, smiles upon the stranger, who cannot fail of being much struck not only with the elegance, but with the convenience of arrangement, which displays itself on all sides, particularly in the easy communication from the hall to the various apartments.

Yet, with all this elegance, a moment's consideration destroys the effect, as there is something particularly incongruous in this style of architecture in our climate. The original Rotunda of *Palladio*, of which this house is a copy, is the Villa Capra near Vicenza in Italy, one of the most celebrated works of that great restorer of ancient architecture, and which is situated about a mile from the city gates. Nothing, as Mr. Dallaway observes,* can exceed either the plan or elevation of the original in simplicity and commodiousness; and its elegance has often excited a desire of imitation, and an ambition of improvement, which, however, have always failed, from a violation of that simplicity which is the real cause of all the excellence of Palladio's work. In this point he considers Mereworth Castle and Footscray Place in Kent, which, like this of Nuthall temple, are imitations of the Villa Capra, to have totally failed; as the four porticoes which constitute their decoration are ill adapted to our climate, whilst the filling them up with apartments, which has in some instances taken place, is still a greater solecism in architecture.

GREYSLEY parish is the largest in the county; and is said to be twenty miles in circumference. It has a handsome spacious church with a lofty embattled tower, in which are four good bells. The whole is kept in good order; but the value of the living is said to be very unequal to its extensive duties. There are some monuments of the Rollestons, Millingtons, &c. but none remaining of the ancient possessors, of whom the Cantilupes had license to embattle their mansion house. This is totally

* Dallaway on the Arts.

tally destroyed, with the exception of some fragments of the ancient walls.

"Northwest from Watnow is the castle of Griesly, the ancient possessions of the lord Zouch; and before of the lord Cantilupe, who married the daughter and heiress of Sir Hugh of Griesly. The same is now the possession of Sir John Savage, whose ancestor had it by the gift of Henry 7th."*

Beauvale, "within the park of Griesley which is north from the castle, was built an abbey in the time of Edward 3d. by the lord Cantilupe, called Beauvale, in Latin *bella vallis*, which Bridget, now Countess of Bedford, hath by Sir Richard Morrison her first husband, the reversion belonging to Charles Morrison her sonne."† Tanner, in his Monasticon, tells us that this was a Carthusian priory, of a prior and twelve monks; they seem, also, to have been jolly fellows, as John of Gaunt granted them a ton of wine annually, as long as he lived, a certain mode of securing their prayers for his longevity. They were also indebted to Edward Baliol, the Scottish monarch, for a grant of sufficient timber for its first erection.‡ Of this place, once so important that the prayers of its inhabitants were incessantly sought by numerous benefactors, nothing now remains except some tottering walls that contain nothing either picturesque or illustrative of antiquity, and are now merely applied to form the common offices of a farm yard.

Kimberley village is within this parish, and its situation scattered over a rising ground, intermingled with trees and hedges, may be considered as even romantic in some points of view. It had a chapel, now in ruins, and going rapidly to decay; and which, not being noticed by Thoroton, may in fact be of a posterior date to his work.

EASTWOOD stands upon the very verge of the county, and is in the coal country; of which there are extensive mines at various depths, from 5 yards to 50. These coals contain a great variety of specimens of antediluvian remains, particular-

* Harleian Col. 369. 52. † Ibid. ‡ Leland. Col. Vol. I. 64.

ly of Ferns and other vegetables. The village itself is scattered over some broken ground, with a modern built church of brick, and of course possessing no ancient monuments; and those who chuse to gossip with the "sage chroniclers" of the place, will be told a wonderful story of a farmer being swallowed up alive in the parlour of the village alehouse, whilst he was swallowing a cup of ale, to the great surprize of the host, who by this means discovered that his humble mansion was built on an exhausted coal pit.

Cossal is a small village to the southward of Eastwood. Here is an hospital founded by the ancient family of Willoughby, for four men, who have coals, clothing, and two shillings per week, for their support. Near it is a small chapel in which is a vault of that family. About the year 1780, on the death of Miss Willoughby of Nottingham, this ancient vault, which had not been used for many years, was opened for her interment: when the workmen entered it, they were surprized by a luminous appearance at the further end, which suddenly disappeared on the approach of a candle. As soon as their superstitious alarm, however, gave way to their curiosity, this *miraculous* light was discovered to proceed from the animal phosphorus of a human scull, covered with a greenish coloured mould in a high state of putrescence.

Marsh, which is about one mile from Cossal, seems to be the place described by Tanner as having a Benedictine cell or chapel of St, Thomas, but whose scite was then considered by him, and since that by his copyists, as unknown.

Strelley "in the west part of the county called the Sand, where the little river Erwash makes its way to the Trent, anciently *Strellegh*, gave name and residence to the knightly family of the Strelleys, (commonly called Sturley,) one of the oldest and most famous in the county."* It is now the property of T. W. Edge, Esq. who has a modern seat in the parish. The village itself is small; the church is dedicated to All Saints, and

* Camden's Britannia.

and is kept particularly neat, especially the chancel; owing in a great measure to the attention of the patron, who has presented a very elegant modern painted east window, of various scriptural subjects. Some of the old armorial glass is still in good preservation, which, with the antique font, may be seen in the plates to Throsby's edition of Thoroton. Two old altar monuments still exist in the chancel; one has no inscription; the other is of the date of 1500: there are also some very neat sepulchral memorials of the family of the present possessor, whose Seat is near to the church, a plain building of three stories in height, with a small projection in the centre of the principal front, ornamented with a pediment. The pleasure grounds are as yet in their infancy; but laid out in a good style, and derive much of their beauty from views of the surrounding scenery, which consists of romantic vallies and pleasing woodlands interspersed with all the elegancies of cultivation.

Bilborough parish has a church dedicated to St. Martin, on a very small scale, but containing some monumental floorstones which may amuse the hunter after genealogy. It also possesses some coal mines, where that fossil is met with at the depth of one hundred yards; but it is principally remarkable for containing the hamlet of *Broxtow*, which gives name to the hundred, and was a place of great consequence in the Saxon times. Here is an ancient manor house, prettily embowered in trees, but much of its picturesque effect destroyed by some uncouth additions of a modern date.

Radford is a manufacturing village at a very short distance from Nottingham on the road to Wollaton, with a population amounting to 3447. It has a small church dedicated to St. Peter; and the village contains some good houses, particularly one belonging to Mr. Elliot of Nottingham, where the grounds are a most excellent miniature of park and garden scenery on a larger scale. In this neighbourhood are many coal pits, in which the coals are dug out in large masses; and it is said that they possess the inflammable principle or gas in a greater pro-

portion than any other species of the fossil in the kingdom. The pleasantest ramble for the tourist in this part of the environs of Nottingham, after passing the heavy sandy road which leads to Radford, is to pass through that village, and to cross the Erwash canal and the river Lene, along whose banks he may trace some very pleasing scenery. He then, leaving Wollaton parkwall on his left, arrives at the village of WOLLATON, in which there is a very ancient church, well deserving of attention, and dedicated to St. Leonard, with a very good spire, containing six bells. This church is very neatly pewed, and has a small organ; in it is also the vault of the Middleton family, but there are no modern monuments: all the ancient ones, however, described by Thoroton are in good preservation. Amongst these, is one to Richard Willoughby, Esq. and his wife, who died about 1481: it resembles an ancient fireplace in a Gothic hall; and in the centre is a large grating, inside of which lies the representation of a skeleton on the floor. Here is also a monument of Henry Willoughby, in armour, with two female figures on one side, which lie in a line, and are just his length. He is in the attitude of prayer; and the lower part of the altar contains four figures, two of which are sons in armour, and two daughters in the costume of the time. Three Gothic arches in the body of the tomb shew a statue of a corpse in grave clothes. The date is 1528, no less than eighty-three years before the institution of Baronets; yet the inscription on the tomb has "*miles pro corpore regis, &c. Baronettus,*" which, however, Thoroton considers as a mistake for "Bannerettus," and of which several other instances might be adduced.

The village is extremely rural; and in it is a neat villa looking house with pleasing grounds, belonging to Mr. Martin, Steward to the Middleton estates. Leaving the village, the road leads to the Erwash Canal, along whose towing path there is a very pleasant ramble, by some extensive coal pits, from whence we cross a common, to the *Bramcote Hills*, near which is a modern built house, of John Longdon, Esq. called *Bramcote House*.

WOLLATON HALL.

House. As yet the grounds and plantations are in a very rough state; but as the hills at the back of the house are a very picturesque range, it promises, when completed, to be a place of considerable interest to the admirer of rural beauty.

Between these hills, on the brow of a rising ground, is a very curious and conspicuous object, called the HEMLOCKSTONE. This is an insulated rugged mass of rock, or reddish sandstone, upwards of thirty feet high, and consisting of very thin *lamina* dipping to the west; its extreme breadth from north to south is about twelve feet at the base, but spreading at about two thirds of its elevation; and its thickness below is about four feet. In outline, it bears some slight resemblance to a mushroom, and is evidently wearing away, from the effects of the weather. Dr. Stukeley is of opinion, that it is merely the remnant of a quarry, the stone of which has been dug, or cut, from around it; an idea not improbable, as it consists of the same materials as the adjoining hills, though in much thinner layers.

BRAMCOTE, was long the residence and property of the Handley family; and in the church lies Henry Handley, Esq. whose memory is preserved in Nottingham by his various charities, as well as at Bramcote, where he left 20l. per annum, for a preaching and resident minister, and 5l. per annum to the poor; he died in 1650. This place is only further noticeable for having, at one period of his life, been the residence of *Gilbert Wakefield*, who settled here in order to establish a school, but without success. The tourist now comes into the Derby road, and turning towards Nottingham, soon arrives at the park-gate of

WOLLATTON HALL.*

This gate is a handsome elevation of stone, with a neat lodge, and light iron railing; and the approach to the house is through a noble winding avenue of lime-trees, nearly a mile in length. The park is extensive, and well stocked with deer, hares, and the various domestic animals; it also contains spacious sheets of

* Its ancient name was Olaveston, but has long been thus corrupted.

water, supplied with a variety of fish, and enlivened by swans and other aquatic birds; and is broken into gentle swells, well wooded with oak and elm, and at intervals admitting some very picturesque and extensive views of the surrounding landscape. A fine sweep leads round to the north front of the house, which stands on a knoll, and exhibits a most magnificent appearance even at a considerable distance, lofty and antique, and bearing some resemblance to the august tower of some ancient cathedral,

"Bosom'd high in tufted trees."——

It is of the fashion of Queen Elizabeth's time, or rather of that fashion then just beginning to be introduced, and is in the Italian style, but of Gothic arrangement. It is square, with four large towers, adorned with pinnacles; and in the centre, the body of the house rises higher, with projecting coped turrets at the corners. The front and sides are adorned with square projecting Ionic pilasters; the square stone windows are without tracery; and the too great uniformity of the whole is broken by oblong niches, circular ones filled with busts of philosophers, emperors, empresses, &c. and by some very rich mouldings.

The house is built entirely of freestone, which came from Ancaster in Lincolnshire, in exchange for pit coal from the estate. Sir Francis Willoughby, Knt. built the house, and was also the designer of the plan, according to his own taste; but the whole was superintended by John Thorpe, a celebrated artist of that time.

Camden, in the first edition of his Britannia, rather pays this house and its builder a compliment; but, in his last, he censures his motives for erecting it; and asserts, that, by the time it was finished, it had sunk three Lordships. Again, in speaking of *Wollaton*, he says, "where in our time, Sir Francis Willoughby, at great expence, in a foolish display of his wealth, built a magnificent and most elegant house, with a fine prospect." A later critic,* speaking of this house, seems inclined to

* Lord Orford, Vol. III, p. 144.

to carry its style of building to a much earlier date than the reign of Elizabeth, when it is supposed to have been first introduced: he says, "the taste of all these stately mansions was that bastard style which intervened between Gothic and Grecian architecture; or which, *perhaps*, was the style that had been invented for the houses of the nobility, when they first ventured, on the settlement of the kingdom after the termination of the quarrel *between the Roses*, to abandon their fortified dungeons, and consult convenience and magnificence; for I am persuaded, that what we call Gothic architecture was confined solely to religious buildings, and never entered into the decoration of private houses." This is rather a curious position; but if the noble author merely means to assert, that private houses were never built in the cathedral style, we will agree with him, even although his own house at Strawberry hill forms an exception to the rule. At the same time, it cannot be denied, that the castellated mansions of the nobility and gentry were built in the *Gothic*, though not exactly in the *Ecclesiastical Gothic* manner; and it is as evident that the style of Wollaton Hall was not introduced immediately after the contest of the Roses, nor even in the reign of Henry the eighth, as the buildings of that period, of which indeed only a few remain, consist of ranges of low apartments, with square framed windows with mullions and tracery, and the whole generally *added* to the castellated mansion of former times:* and as we are, perhaps, to date the introduction of the *Gothic* style from the taste and observation of our wandering Crusaders, so for this introduction of the reviving arts in Italy, engrafted upon the former style, are we indebted to that spirit of rambling over the continent, which had become so fashionable in the time of Elizabeth, and even in the latter part of Henry's reign.

Having

* A very correct example of this position may be found at Hever castle in Kent, near Tunbridge, the residence of Sir Thomas Boleyn, and often the scene of Henry's courtship with the fair Anne.

Having thus examined the outside of this august mansion, we shall proceed to the interior, in the examination of which we were more fortunate than Mr. Bray, who observes in his tour, "so far may be seen, but strangers are not permitted to see the inside, even when the family is absent; a piece of pride, or gloomy inhospitality, which for the credit of our country is rare." It is to be regretted, that a man of so much taste, and so capable of describing this residence, should thus have been disappointed; we, however, met with no difficulty in procuring admission; but even found the attention and civility of the domestics redoubled, when the intention of the visit was known. We shall then at once, in company with our readers, ascend a handsome flight of steps, which leads to an *Entrance hall*, in which is an armoury for the county, consisting of a number of musquets with their accoutrements all disposed in a regular and ornamental manner. From hence we enter the

HALL, which is a lofty and spacious apartment, on a plan and arrangement strictly Gothic, but fitted up and ornamented entirely in the Italian style of revived architecture. It has an elegant flat ceiling, supported by oaken brackets of light and open workmanship; at the upper end is a gallery, and the screen is supported by Doric pillars. Under the beams are a variety of devices, of satyrs, caryatides, &c. according to the taste of the times; and in the gallery are a handsome clock, and an organ. The walls and ceiling are painted by *La Guire*; and there are several good pictures by the best masters. Neptune and Amphitrite. Rape of Europa. These are both by *Luca Giordani*. Game, fruits, and a dog most exquisitely executed. Wolves and dogs. *Schneider*. Three landscapes; one cattle in repose amidst ruins; travellers reposing beneath a rocky cavern, with cattle, and ruins; travellers with their flocks. *Rosa di Tivoli*. Charles the first; a good copy from *Vandyke*. Ancient painting containing a birds eye view of Wollaton Hall, and gardens. Here is also a good bust of Bacchus in white marble;

marble; and there are imitations of Elks heads, but with real horns, over every door. Near to the gallery is a family piece, in which is introduced Sir Hugh Willoughby, whose portrait we shall have further occasion to mention.

The GALLERY contains some family portraits, a large painting of Joseph and his brethren, and a piece of still life.

The SALOON is a very elegant and airy apartment, containing some good pictures. A most masterly production of dogs, and a wild boar. *Schneider.* Four family pictures of the Willoughbys, in the time of Elizabeth; these are Sir Francis and his lady, their son and daughter. First Lord Middleton. His Lady. Large view of the house and park at Middleton. Though the paintings in this apartment deserve examination, yet the stranger's attention will be principally directed to the windows, from whence there is a most enchanting prospect of the pleasure grounds, and their various ornaments of buildings and water, backed by fine groves, in which are seen shady walks, and all the beauties of garden scenery.

The PRINCIPAL STAIRCASE, is elegantly painted in fresco. In the centre is a Roman sacrifice to Apollo, in which the portraits of several of the family are introduced. The ceiling represents Heaven, with a full assembly of the Gods; and Prometheus is seen stealing the sacred spark of fire. On the left side of the staircase, he is represented animating the figure; the story is here remarkably well told, and the surprize mixed with joy, wonder, and gratitude, so strongly marked in the countenance of the animated statue, seems a counterpart of the feelings of our general mother, so admirably delineated by Milton. On the right side, the unfortunate Philosopher, for such, when divested of allegory, we may believe Prometheus to have been, is seen chained to the rock by Vulcan, whilst Mercury gives the orders, and the whole groupe are surrounded by nymphs, graces, &c. The whole affording an excellent allegorical lesson; for though Prometheus may have been the first, he is not the last who, after animating a female statue, and having

having his chains riveted by the Gretna Green Vulcan, has found his heart torn by a Vulture!

The DINING ROOM up stairs has two most magnificent glasses, and has some very capital family pictures. Sir Richard Willoughby, Lord Chief Justice for the space of twenty-three years, in the reign of Edward the third. Sir Hugh Willoughby, frozen to death in the North Seas, in 1554. He went out for the purpose of making discoveries in the Northern Ocean, with three ships fitted out at the private expense of the society of merchants, who had joined in company, in order to prosecute the search after a north-east passage to India. Having proceeded as far as Spitzbergen, the *Edward Bonaventure*, commanded by Captain Richard Chancellor, was separated from the squadron in a gale of wind; soon after which Sir Hugh discovered land, but was unable to examine it on account of the ice and shoalness of the water. He considered it as being in 72 degrees of north latitude; and it may have been the Coast of Nova Zembla, or the island of Kolgen. Sailing from thence, to the westward, he came at length to a river and harbour, where he determined to pass the winter; but not having a sufficient quantity of wood for fuel, and being perhaps attacked by the scurvy, he and his whole crew perished, though it appeared by the papers which they left behind them that they were still alive in the month of January 1554. This harbour is said to have been called *Arzina;* and there is a river of that name in Russian Lapland. To this unhappy event, Thomson alludes in his "Winter:"—

"————Miserable they!
Who, here entangled in the gathering ice,
Take their last look of the descending sun;
While, full of death, and fierce with tenfold frost,
The long long night, incumbent o'er their heads,
Falls horrible. Such was the Briton's fate,
As with first prow, (what have not Britons dar'd!)
He for the passage sought, attempted since

So much in vain, and seeming to be shut
By jealous nature with eternal bars.
In these fell regions, in *Arima* caught,
And to the stony deep his idle ship
Immediate seal'd, he with his hapless crew,
Each full exerted at his several task,
Froze into statues; to the cordage glued
The sailor, and the pilot to the helm."

The poet has indeed made a copious use of the poet's licence by exaggeration; but it is impossible to look on the picture without feeling many of the sensations that arise from the delineation.

The DRAWING ROOM is plain but elegant. The pictures are, a fine view of Nottingham, from the Trent; good portraits of late Lord Middleton and his lady; an old lady by Sir Godfrey Kneller; two sea pieces; two Indian paintings; and a humourous piece of two boys eating hasty pudding.*

The BILLIARD ROOM is well adapted for its declared purpose, and has a few good paintings. Over the fire place, is what is called the original of the Earl of Strafford, and his secretary, the night before his execution; there are several pieces of this kind, however, which claim the meed of originality. Speaking of Wentworth in Yorkshire, Gilpin says, "the original of Lord Strafford and his secretary is said to be here. Its pretensions are disputed; though I think it has merit enough to maintain them any where." Whether this at Wollaton is really the original, or only a copy, we will not pretend to decide; but the picture certainly has considerable merit; and is no doubt a just likeness of that unfortunate nobleman, whose true character has perhaps never been justly appreciated; for whilst the violent factions, which occupied the attention, and directed the conduct and sentiments, of his cotemporaries, still continue by their remembrance to divide posterity into his absolute censurers or unqualified admirers, both his enemies and friends have too much

* Some alteration has since taken place with respect to these pictures.

much confounded his own merits and demerits, with those of the transactions in which he was so much occupied. At the scaffold, he expressed his love for his country, and for his sovereign; but he expressed his fears that it augured ill for the people's happiness, thus to write the commencement of a reform in letters of blood.

At one end of the room, is a large piece of fruit, flowers, game, vegetables, &c. either an original of, or a good copy from, *Schneider*. At the other end, is a very curious composition of landscape, sea beach, rocks, &c. in the centre is a Flora, evidently a portrait; there is also a fisherman with his basket, and some fish remarkably well done.

The SECONDARY STAIRCASE, is ornamented with some good paintings. Landscape and buffaloes; these animals were once in the park. The father of the present lord. Several Dutch paintings, particularly a most excellent market piece. Italian sea piece, a copy from *Claude Lorraine*. A philosopher with Gerard's Herbal before him; a painting of very considerable merit, though evidently neglected. The infant John, making his offering to the child JESUS, with Mary and Elizabeth. Isaac and Jacob meeting. Some family pictures of the ancient line of Willoughby, which deserve a more conspicuous situation.

The visitor is now led by a circular staircase in one of the towers, to the UPPER ROOM or BALL ROOM, which rises above the centre of the roof. At present it is little more than a lumber room, but is still worth seeing, as it contains some curious ancient arms, some family pictures copies of those below, and a very strange one of Susannah and the Elders, literally a curiosity. Here is also an antique cabinet of Queen Elizabeth's time, with a variety of uncouth figures carved on it.

In two of the turrets there are neat rooms, to which the approach is from the roof of the house, from whence there is a most delightful and extensive prospect of the well wooded park and gardens, in which the water and bridge have a very fine

effect; and the Woulds, together with the vale of Belvoir, add much to the beauty of the prospect, contrasting finely with the rich foreground. The ornaments of the roof consist principally of a number of statues of very decent execution, and in remarkably good preservation; and the mode of arranging the chimnies is well worthy the notice of the architect, springing from the corners to a centre, so as to appear rather designed for ornament than use.

Descending from this elevation, the LIBRARY is the next object of examination. It is a long room, wainscotted in imitation of oak, with a good selection of books on general subjects, well arranged. Here is an ancient folio Missal, highly illuminated; also an ancient service book of Wollaton church, bought from the last *Catholic* rector for ten marks, containing the whole service set for chanting in the ancient manner. Henry, the fifth Lord Middleton, with many portraits of the earlier branches of the Willoughbys are in this apartment; together with a very curious antique cabinet, ornamented with animals and flowers, inlaid in mother of pearl.

Leaving the house, the stranger is conducted towards the grounds, when he passes a very handsome pile of stables and other exterior offices, erected in 1774: in the front is a pediment enriched with sculpture, and the whole are on a large scale, and finished even in a style of elegance. Close to the mansion, is the ancient pleasure ground, in which the antique style is preserved, though with some modern alterations and additions: here are a number of statues, and the other usual ornaments of such places. The modern flower, and kitchen garden, &c. are at some distance from this, and completely hid in wood, so as only to be visible from the upper part of the house. In the grounds there is a curious summer house in the Grotto style, pannelled and ceiled with looking glasses, and ornamented with paintings and shell work. Under it is a *water house*, formed completely in the grotesque, with shell and rock work; but as these

these are at least a century old, much of their former grandeur is gone.

Trowell lies between Wollaton, and the verge of the county; it is nothing more than a scattered village, with a church dedicated to St. Helen. This building, though consisting of a nave and side aisles, is in very indifferent preservation; but the tower is a very fine object. In the windows of the chancel are many fragments of armorial glass; some of the ancient stalls remain, and there is an antique and capacious font, that may engage the attention of the antiquary.*

Stapleford, a populous village engaged in the stocking manufacture, lies about a mile south from Trowel, close to the Erwash canal. The chapel is dedicated to St. Helen's, and is kept in very good order. The spire has a set of five bells, and the chapel is sufficiently large for the whole parish, having a nave and two side aisles; yet the love of variety or of novelty, even in religious matters, has been followed by the establishment of a meeting house, upon the Wesleyan principles. The whole of the chapel underwent a thorough repair in 1785; and it is pleasing to observe, that the churchwardens have been particularly careful to preserve the ancient monuments, some of which remain for the families of Tevery and Willoughby, and there are also some handsome tablets for the Warrens.

Stapleford Hall, the seat of the Right Honourable Admiral Sir John Borlase Warren, Bart. and K. B. is situated close to the village. It stands low, with a handsome lawn in front, tastefully surrounded with ornamental plantations. The house is quite in a plain style, and was rebuilt by the gallant proprietor, about 1797. It would far exceed our limits to enter on his biography; the pen of the historian must detail his exploits—but it

* The *Magna Britannia*, speaking of Trowel, says, that "while the nuns of Sempringham had a part here, the Prior had the liberty of *free warren* in all the Demesne lands belonging to them,"—a thing not very uncommon, if we are to believe all the stories of monks and nuns, so prevalent at the time of the Reformation.

It is a fact worth recording here, that on his engaging in the naval service as midshipman of the Venus frigate, at the commencement of the American war, then resuming a professional life, to which he was much attached, he performed a singular and perhaps romantic action that betokened a munificence truly princely, by going to the Fleet and King's Bench prison and actually releasing all the officers of the navy detained at both, out of his own private fortune.

ATTENBOROUGH, which we presume was the ancient *Attenton*, lies nearly on the banks of the Trent. It is a very small village, not containing more than twenty houses; yet its church is large, and also well filled, as it serves for Chilwell, Toueton,* and part of Bramcote. It is dedicated to St. Mary, and has some armorial glass, as well as rude figures on the capitals of the pillars that deserve attention. The monumental remains are but few; but there is a curious little brass only eight inches long, of which a plate may be found in Throsby's edition of Thoroton.

But this place is remarkable, as having given birth to HENRY IRETON the regicide, and son in law of Cromwell. He was eldest son of Gervase Ireton, Esq. and brother to Sir John Ireton, Lord Mayor of London, in 1658. He was a gentleman commoner of Trinity College Oxford, in 1629, and at the age of 19 took one degree in arts; but, as Wood tells us in his *Athenæ*, left the university without completing that degree by determination; at which time he had the character in that college, of a stubborn and saucy fellow towards the seniors, and therefore his company was not at all wanting. Afterwards he went to the Middle Temple, learned some grounds of the common law, became a man of a working and laborious brain, which, in the end, led him into error. When the rebellion broke out, he as a person *natured* to mischief, took up arms against the king, was a *recruiter* in the Long Parliament, either for the

* It is a curious mistake of Dr. Thomas Fuller, in his Ecclesiastical History, to confound this place with Towtonfield in Yorkshire.

county of Westmoreland, or for Appleby, and about that time married Bridget, one of the daughters of Cromwell, then only colonel of a regiment. By this matrimonial interest, he became first a captain, afterwards colonel of a regiment of horse, and at length commissary general upon the new modelling of the army in 1645. About this time, says Wood, he was an active man, and one very busy in breaking the presbyterian faction in the House of Commons, in order that the Independents might get the king into their own clutches. His parts and abilities were such, his dissimulation so profound, and his mischievous designs had so clean a conveyance, that his father-in-law made frequent use of him, when he was put to a push to complete his designs; and having always found him to be very capable of overthrowing monarchy, and a thorough paced dissembler under the mask of religion, (being absolutely the best prayer maker and preacher in the whole army,) he employed him to draw up the famous remonstrance of the army, requiring justice to be done on their sovereign.

At this period he was also a commissioner of the navy, and was very active in writing pamphlets, and is said to have been the person principally employed in drawing up all the declarations, desires, modules, and transactions of the army, as well as most of the letters that passed between Fairfax and the Parliament, before the death of Charles. At the trial he was very active, had a hand in drawing up the ordinance for it, and the precept for proclaiming the High Court of Justice; and also sat as a judge on the trial, and was one of the committee that appointed the time and place of execution.

In Cromwell's expedition to Ireland, he was appointed by the Parliament as second in command with the rank of Major General, and was afterwards made president of Munster; but being left as deputy by Cromwell, in 1649, he died the next year, of a sudden disorder, at Limeric. On his death, the Parliament settled a pension of 2000*l.* per annum upon his widow and children, out of the estates of the Duke of Buckingham;

his body was brought in state to London, and laid in Somerset House, with an atchievement of his arms; the motto on which being, "Dulce est pro patria mori," an honest Cavalier translated it thus, "it is good for his country that he is dead!"

The farce of dignity was carried so far, as to give him not only burial, but also a stately tomb in Henry the seventh's chapel, where, however, he was not long permitted to remain, his tomb being destroyed at the Restoration, and his body as well as Bradshaw's and Cromwell's, as it is supposed, buried under the gallows at Tyburn.*

LENTON lies near to Nottingham, and was, as Camden says, "once famous for the abbey, founded in honour of the Holy Trinity by William Peverel, bastard son of William the Conqueror, now only for its well frequented fair."

Tanner calls it a Cluniac priory, and says it was made subject by its founder to the great foreign abbey of Clugny. He adds, that it was accounted among the Alien priories, and had their fate until the Cluniac monks here got it made denizen, by which means it continued until the general dissolution in the time of Henry the eighth, and did not share the first fate of the alien priories. Speed says, it was valued at 417*l.*; but Leland and Dugdale, call it only 330*l.* It had also many valuable privileges; but these of course all ceased on the dissolution.

Here was also an hospital of St. Anthony within the church yard or court of the ancient priory, for the support and cure of such as were troubled with the disorder which took its name from that saint; and there was a small establishment of White Carmelite friars.

Before the Conquest, this was merely an hamlet to Arnold, and took its name from its situation on the banks of the Lene; but on the grant of it to Peverel, it became independent; and in the reign of Henry the first, had a grant from that monarch of a *fair*, to continue eight days at the feast of St. Martin, in which it was ordered that no man should buy or sell at Not-

* Wood's Athenæ, Vol. 2, 148.

tingham during its continuance, and also that all persons coming from, or going to it, should be free from all processes of law. This fair still continues for horned cattle, sheep, and hops; and there is another on the Wednesday in Whitsun-week, by grant of Charles the second. At the dissolution, the abbey demesne was granted to Sir William Hicks; it afterwards came to the first Duke of Richmond, who sold it to the ancestor of ——— Gregory, Esq. the present possessor, in the reign of Charles the second.

The village, which at the present day consists of a long street, is a pleasant evening's walk from Nottingham, being extremely neat and rural, and having several gentlemen's seats on the banks of the river.

The church, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, is very small, and seems to have been built on part of the ancient hospital, after the destruction of the priory. It bears, however, high marks of antiquity in many parts, and near the reading desk there is an ancient monumental stone on which a cross and chalice are carved with the date of 1333; but this may have been removed from the original church. The font is very large, being two feet six inches in height; and is remarkable from its being in the form of a parallelogram, as if intended for complete immersion. On the sides are some curious and even laboured sculptures of the crucifixion, &c. with niches filled with angels.

All vestiges of the Abbey and Abbey Church, had long been destroyed, nor was its scite even known until some years ago, when a very curious brass plate of the crucifixion was found, weighing upwards of seven ounces, and supposed to have been left there by Cardinal Wolsey, on his way to Leicester abbey, where he closed his ambitious and disquiet life. It contains a number of figures, not badly executed, as may be judged from an impression of it in the 67th volume of the Gentleman's Magazine. It was found adhering to a wooden crucifix, above the transverse piece; and this discovery naturally led to the supposition, that the spot where it was found must have been the

scite

scite of the ancient priory. Nothing further took place, however, with respect to investigation, until a few years ago, when Mr. Stretton, whose house is close by the ancient church yard, and indeed partly situated on the ancient ruin, began a course of examination in which he discovered several bases of the very elegant Saxon pillars of the conventual church, but even in doing this his researches were attended with very little antiquarian satisfaction, as the venerable remains were actually taken away for common purposes. He had influence sufficient, however, to prevent any further *Vandalic* proceedings of this nature, and has not only dug out seven very fine specimens of the ancient pillars, to the height of a few feet above their bases, but has also been enabled nearly to trace out the ground plan of the whole.

Lenton Priory is a very handsome dwelling house of Mr. Stretton's own erection, in the form of an ancient priory, as far as the proportions would admit; and there are several antique sepulchral memorials in the garden deserving of notice, particularly a stone coffin, with a crosier on the lid; also a very curious Saxon font supposed to have belonged to the ancient priory. The exterior of the house presents some very good specimens of the ornamented Gothic, in the doors and windows; and the interior arrangement, though possessing every modern comfort, is not inappropriate.

The antiquarian tourist will also find much to gratify him in a collection of curiosities belonging to this gentleman, most of which are illustrative of Lenton, and its neighbourhood. Here is also a portrait of the famous *Nell Gwynne*, which, if not an original of Lely's, is such a copy as he need not have been ashamed of. It is not our place, indeed, to fill up these pages with remarks on a woman of her description, however elevated she became in life; yet we must do her the justice to allow, that her portrait speaks her worthy of a better fate. Indeed she was most munificently liberal in her benefactions; and her foibles, her failings, and all her errors, are forgotten in the con-

templation of her being the primary cause of the erection and establishment of Chelsea Hospital, as an asylum for disabled soldiers, and for which she actually gave the ground on which it stands, as an encouragement to the design.* Her latter end too was honourable to her, as Dr. Jennison, who preached her funeral sermon, adduced satisfactory evidence that she died a sincere and contrite Christian. Such, as her biographer has observed, was Nell Gwynne; her failings must be admitted by all; but the most rigid moralist cannot withhold from her the praise of many good and amiable qualities. But to quit this digression, to which we were led by a recollection of this very capital portrait, let us now proceed towards

Wilford, a most delightful village on the banks of the Trent, and which contains several very neat villas, belonging to some people of opulence in Nottingham. The village is altogether neatly built, and extremely rural. The church stands close to the Trent, and is not only an handsome object in itself, but also commands a most pleasing view of Nottingham and its vicinity. It is dedicated to St. Wilfrid, and the name is evidently a contraction of Wilfrid's ford, as there is both a ford and a ferry close by; the tower is low, but the nave and two side aisles are capacious and kept in good order, and the chancel has a very neat altar piece. It seems to have been anciently a Roman station, as many Roman coins were dug up here a few years ago, most of which were of the latter emperors.

Wilford House, a neat modern building, is the seat of John Smith Wright, Esq. Turning from this village towards the bank of Trent, we have a view of the steep cliff on which

Clifton Hall

stands deeply embowered in groves of oak and elm, and most pleasingly situated to command the most extensive prospects over the Trent, the town of Nottingham, and an immense tract of

* A public house in the vicinity of that hospital, and much frequented by its inmates, still exhibits a rude representation of her head; and there, as well as in the hospital, *Nell Gwynne*, has long been a standing toast.

of country extending into all the surrounding counties. A neat gravelled walk leads along the river's bank, from whence the opposite shore, crowned with the towers of Wollaton and the modern Gothic villa of Mr. Wright, is seen to great advantage. At the end of this path, a handsome park gate opens to the grounds, and leads to CLIFTON GROVE, a long avenue forming the approach to the house, about a mile in length, and broad enough for a dozen carriages to drive abreast. It is entirely covered with the green sward, and thickly sheltered with trees on each side which preclude all distant views, except about the middle, where a circular opening cut in the foliage presents an almost magic prospect of Nottingham castle with the town and part of the surrounding scenery, like a living picture in a verdant frame. The effect of this is indescribable, nor could it be expressed even by the largest painting; in short, it must be seen to be fully appreciated. The whole of the crown of the cliff, and also the slope to the Trent, are covered with fir and elm, which were planted in 1740 and have thriven remarkably well. Near the upper end of this avenue, the cliff nearly overhangs the Trent, whose silver stream meanders most pleasingly round it. "Here" we are told by Throsby, "tradition says, the Clifton beauty, who was debauched and murdered by her sweetheart, was hurled down the precipice into her watery grave; the place is still shewn, and it has been long held in veneration by lovers."

We now approach the hall, the seat of a very ancient family of the same name for many centuries, of which the present *Sir Gervas Clifton, Bart.* is the representative. The mansion, which stands on a rock of gypsum or alabaster curiously interspersed in many places with beautiful spars, was formerly quite in the antique style of the sixteenth century, and Stukely speaking of it about the year 1712 says, "Clifton near here, is a good seat with pretty groves, and a noble prospect;" but it is now much modernized, indeed in some parts almost rebuilt.

The present Sir Gervase Clifton, had begun to modernize the

house near forty years ago, but broke off his general design in consequence of a domestic loss. Much was done, however, in the course of twelve years; for what was then done to modernize it was executed in the most elegant manner, and the gardens and plantations were begun to be laid out on a new plan of tasteful elegance. At present the front to the village still retains part of the ancient mansion, but looks incomplete, from the wings not being regular either in shape or in size. The centre of the principal front is ornamented with ten handsome columns of the Doric order, but is rather concealed from view by the luxuriance of surrounding plantations, as well as by the churchyard enclosures, and by some of the offices, so as not to be seen except on a close approach. One of the most elegant of the intended alterations was nearly finished, when the death of the amiable mistress put a stop in some measure to the plan. Lady Clifton's intended dressing room was arranged with a south aspect with an entrance into the greenhouse, thus bringing that most pleasing sheltered amusement in a dreary winter's day within reach of the social fireside, and thereby rendering it a more frequent object of attention, than when placed at such a distance as almost to forbid a visit to it during the inclement season when it is most desirable. The house contains many good paintings, but as they are mostly family portraits, they require no illustration.

The gardens are on the side of a hill rising above the house, and originally were laid out in the ancient taste with a regular series of slopes in progressive height, connected by flights of stone steps, and divided by cut yew hedges; and, as it has been justly observed, the levelling of the ground on each of these, so as to make them into so many flat parterres, was not only attended with great expense, but also a proof of the then barbarous taste of the designer; as, by the preservation of the natural slope of the hill, its whole surface might have been viewed either from the summit or from the base; instead of having only one terrace seen at a time. After ascending these steps,

steps, the visitor found himself on a large bowling green, beyond which was a walk through a wood, leading to a summer-house in a most commanding situation, looking down on the Trent, and over a great extent of distant country. At present the fine terrace walk is preserved, as well as a most interesting one at the foot of the hill, winding through a thick embowering shade of willow and hawthorn, overtopped by some fine spreading elms.

The *Village of Clifton* lies on a flat, and contains a number of neat rural cottages finely shaded with trees, and also two or three pretty villa looking residences. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is close to the mansion, and, though ancient, is yet in good preservation, with a nave, two side aisles, and two cross aisles. In the windows are still some fragments of armorial glass; and there are many old brasses of the Cliftons. Here also is the family vault, in which are deposited several generations, its entrance having the date of 1632. Throsby tells us that in it is an ancient leaden coffin, formed to the human shape; also a heavy piece of lead in the form of a heart, which once held the heart of one of the family who died abroad. Some of the table monuments with ancient knights, &c. are worth inspection, as well as the brasses some of which are very fine. Here is also the grave of Joseph, (commonly called the Black Prince,) a negro converted to Christianity in 1685, and who was brought up under the patronage of the resident family. It is said that he grew to the height of seven feet *nearly*, which is marked off in the church porch.

The ancient state of this place has been described in a MS. in the British Museum;* "and a mile beyond is the town of Clifton; also upon the very bank of the river of Trent, is the house of Gervase Clifton, a most ancient stock, and most renowned by the memory of his worthy grandfather, Sir Gervase Clifton deceased, most famous for his courtesie and liberality, and for his great services done in the wars, as well within the realm as in

* Harl. Coll. 368, 53.

in France and Scotland." To this there is no date; but there is also another* containing the following quaint paragraph, speaking of the first baronet of the family. "Hee is worthy to be honoured that deserveth honour, saith the Roman Emperor. This person was honoured in being chosen a burgesse with the Lord Mansfield, for the borough of East Retford, in this county as their representatives in that long winded Parliament at Westminster, whose loyalty to king and country, deserves the van and right hand of all baronets in this shire, for he suddenly found that there was a compact party of dangerous principles in the House of Commons, so that he betooke himself to the breast plate of loyalty, and with a good courage and resolution, went to Oxford to serve his Majesty of blessed memory, king Charles the first, who made him a commissioner at the garrison of Newark upon Trent, where he proved a valiant and fortunate gentleman, one well settled in his religion, and allegiance to his liege lord and sovereign, for which he paid into the usurpers of Goldsmith's hall in London the sum of MDC hundred XXV pounds."

The early opulence of the Clifton family, is particularly noticed by Peck in his "Desiderata Curiosa," where he states a curious wedding dinner, in the year 1580; at which there were two oxen, two brawns, twelve swans, three quarters of wheat, seven lambs, six wethers, seven calves, ten pigs, eight cranes, sixty couple of conies, three hhds of wine, white, red, and claret, and eight quarters of barley malt, &c. &c. &c. The wine cost five guineas, the oxen thirty shilling each, pigs five-pence, lambs one and five-pence, wethers two and four-pence, the wheat eighteen shillings per quarter, malt fourteen shillings per quarter, and there were as many wild fowl as cost a sum equal to the two oxen. The wedding ring cost twelve shillings and four pence.

Tanner, in his Monasticon tells us, that at Clifton there was a small cottage for a warden and two priests, dedicated to the Holy

* Harl. Coll. 2043.

Holy Trinity; begun by Sir Robert, and completed by his son Sir Gervase Clifton, in the time of Edward the fourth: at the dissolution, it was valued at 21*l.*

Near Clifton is CHILWELL, of which there is now nothing worth particular notice; but in a MS. in the British Museum, we find the following note;* "and against Clifton on ye north side of the Trent, standith Chilwell, where is an ancient house builded by Sir William Babyngton, sometime chiefe hushier of the Common Pleas, and before was the house of one Martell, an ancient gentleman, whose heire the said Babyngton married, and lately the Lord Sheffield possessed it, as heire to Babyngton, who sould it, and now one Christopher Pymm, Gent. has it."

Of *Barton*, we have already spoken, in our general introduction. Near it is the hill, already noticed, on the top of which, are the remains of the *Roman* camp, as appears from the many coins which have been found at different periods. It is evident, however, that it was originally British. Peck gives an extraordinary account of the effects of lightning upon this hill, in 1734, seemingly like the consequences of an earthquake.†

THRUMPTON HALL, is a short distance from Barton. It belonged formerly to the Pigot family, who some years ago sold it to John Emmerton, of the Middle Temple, Esq.; from whom it came to the Wescombs, who have since taken the name of Emmerton. In 1669, its then possessor Gervase Pigot, Esq. was high sheriff of the county, and having dressed his men in black and silver, on account of his daughter's decease, they were obliged soon after to attend him in the same livery to his own last home.

The mansion, which stands near the union of the Soar and Trent, was built about 1630, and, though having undergone many recent alterations, still retains much of the ancient work, partaking much of the style of the reign of James the first, with the

* Harl. Coll. 368, 53. † Desiderata Curiosa, Vol. 2, lib. XIV. p. 54.

the ornamented gable ends to the returns in front, and the square heavy framed windows, &c. It rises to the height of four stories, and the interior arrangements are upon an elegant and convenient scale. The gardens are extremely neat and agreeable; and the surrounding scenery is picturesque in almost every point of view. It is now the property and residence of John Wescomb Emmerton, Esq.

GOTHAM, so famous in proverbial story, is but a short distance from Thrumpton, and lies on the cross road from Clifton to Leke.

Oid "Drunken Barnaby" seems to have visited Gotham in one of his poetical journies to the north; for he sings:

"Thence to Gotham, where sure am I,
Though not all fools, I saw many;
Here a she-gull found I prancing,
And in moonshine nimbly dancing;
There another wanton madling,
Who, her Hog was set a sadling."

Mr. Throsby, however, seems of a different opinion from honest Barnaby, for he says, that he now thinks the inhabitants of this village as wise as their neighbours. A variety of opinions, indeed, have gone abroad respecting this place. Warton, speaking of "the idle pranks of the men of Gotham," is rather mistaken, when he calls it a town in Lincolnshire;* but he adds, "that such pranks bore a reference to some customary law tenures belonging to that place, or its neighbourhood, now grown obsolete: and that Blount might have enriched his book of ancient tenures with those ludicrous stories." Hearne also† says, "nor is there more reason to esteem, *The merry tales of the mad men of Gotham*, (which was much valued and cried up in Henry the eighths time, though now sold at ballad singer's stalls,) as altogether a romance: a certain skilful person having told me more than once, that they formerly held lands there, by such sports and customs as are touched upon in this book."

But

* English Poetry, Vol. III.
† Nat. et Spicileg. and Gul. Newbrig, Vol III. p. 744.

But Fuller* says, that the proverb "as wise as a man of Gotham, passeth publicly for the periphrasis of a fool; and an hundred fopperies are forged and fathered on the townsfolk of Gotham." Still he thinks it no more remarkable than the customs of other nations; for it has been well observed, that a custom seems to have prevailed, even among the earliest nations, of stigmatizing some particular spot as remarkable for stupidity. Amongst the Asiatics, Phrygia was considered as the *Gotham* of that day; Abdera, amongst the Thracians; and Bœotia among the Greeks. Fuller, however, adds, "but to return to Gotham, it doth breed as wise people as any which causelessly laugh at their simplicity. Sure I am Mr. William de Gotham, fifth master of Michael House, Cambridge, anno 1339, and twice chancellor of the University, was as grave a governor as that age did afford: and Gotham is a goodly large lordship, where the ancient and right well respected family of St. Andrew have flourished some hundreds of years, till of late the name is extinct, and lands divided betwixt female coheirs matched unto very worshipful persons."

From these various protests in favour of the men of Gotham, it is evident that considerable publicity had been given to the many ridiculous fables traditionally told; particularly of their having often heard the cuckoo, but never having seen her, and therefore hedged in a bush from whence her note seemed to proceed, that being confined within so small a compass, they might at length catch her and satisfy their curiosity. It has been observed by several writers in the last century, that what gave rise to the story is not now remembered; but they all mention that there is at a place called "Courthill" in the parish, a bush still designated by the name of the "Cuckoo bush."

The editor of the Magna Britannia, however, might almost be suspected of being a Gothamite himself, from the warmth with which he declares that, "unless some good reason can be produced, it ought to be laid aside, and never mentioned in history."

* British Worthies.

history." He adds, that in the Conqueror's Survey, it is called "Gatham," from goats, which we may imagine at that time were plentiful in or about it; and being much cherished here, it was hence called Goats-home or dwelling. One *Story* was lord of part of this manor before the Norman invasion;* but after that it was taken from him, being a Saxon, and given by the conqueror to Robert, Earl of Morteyn, one of his Norman followers. It is now the property of Pen Asheton Curzon, Esq.

The village stands upon a gentle rise, whose basis is gypsum or alabaster, which seems also the basis of the hills to the west and southwest. From Clifton hill to Gotham, the whole country is a dead flat, extending to the Woulds and into the vale of Belvoir; but the ground rises towards East Leek and Remston, so as to join the Leicestershire hills. To the west, there are some very fine swelling eminences, partly clothed in wood; over these the road runs towards Keyworth, and the views from them into Leicestershire on one side, and over Nottinghamshire towards Lincolnshire on the other, are very fine. Much of the land round the village is common field, but is highly susceptible of cultivation; and there is plenty of game in the neighbourhood.

The village church is antique, and is dedicated to St. Laurence; it has a nave and two side aisles; but the spire is rather of a heavy appearance. The whole of the church is in good repair, and the chancel has been rebuilt about thirty years ago. The village itself only consists of a few cottages, not remarkable for neatness; it must be confessed, however, that the inhabitants are very tenacious of their *parochial* honour, as the editor of these sheets, on making enquiry on the spot, could not meet with any person who seemed to know any thing of the old Gothamite stories. For this *wilful* ignorance, however, he was made ample amends by a talkative landlady at the village inn at East Leek, the adjoining parish, who seemed to have treasured

* Mag. Britan. Vol. 4. p. 27.

sured in her memory every tale that had been told of her neighbours.

Courthill, the scene of the cuckoo-bush story, is a very short distance from the village, and the "cuckoo bush," is most certainly still in existence there; the present inhabitants have been wise enough, however, to turn this hill to better purpose than their ancestors did, as they work on the side of it two very fine quarries; one of gypsum, or *plaster*, as they term it, in very large blocks, the strata in some places being three feet in thickness; the other of a reddish stone, sufficiently hard for building, but calcareous, and fit either to burn into lime, or to polish as marble. Much of the produce of these quarries is now carried to the canal, and there shipped for the wharfs at Nottingham, from whence it is conveyed to various parts of the kingdom.

The book alluded to by Fuller is also mentioned by Walpole, who says, "the merry tales of the mad men of Gotham, a book extremely admired, and often reprinted in that age, was written by Lucas de Heere, a Flemish painter, who resided in England in the time of Elizabeth." Wood, however, is of a different opinion respecting the author, and tells us they were written by one Andrew Borde, or *Andreas Perforatus* as he calls himself by a strange kind of dog Latin paraphrase. This facetious gentleman was a kind of travelling quack; and it is supposed that the name and occupation of a "merry andrew," took its rise from some of the professional fooleries of this whimsical charlatan. There is an old black letter edition of the work, now in the Bodleian library at Oxford: it is called "Certaine merry tales of the mad men of Gotham, compiled in the reign of Henry the eighth, by Dr. Andrew Borde, an eminent physician of that period;" but it would far exceed our limits to tell more than one story, which is related nearly in the following words:

"There were two men of Gotham, and the one of them was going to the market of Nottingham to buy sheepe, and the other

other came from the market; and both met together upon Nottingham bridge. Well met, said the one to the other. Whether bee ye going? said he that came from Nottingham. Marry, said he that was going thither, I goe to that market to buy sheepe. Buy sheepe! said the other, and which way wilt thou bring them home? Marry, said the other, I will bring them over this bridge. By Robin Hood, said he that came from Nottingham, but thou shalt not. By maid Marian, said he that was going thitherward, but I will. Thou shalt not said the one. I will, said the other. *Ter here!* said the one. *Shue there!* said the other. Then they beat their staves against the ground, one against the other, as there had been a hundred sheepe betwixt them. Hold in, said the one. Beware the leaping over the bridge of my sheepe, said the other. They shall not come this way, said the one. But they shall, said the other. Then, said the other, and if that thou make much to do, I will put my finger in thy mouth. A—thou wilt, said the other. And as they were at their contention, another man of Gotham came by from the market, with a sacke of meale upon his horse, and seeing and hearing his neighbours in strife about sheepe, and none betwixt them, said, ah! fooles, will you never learn wit? Helpe me, said he that had the meale, and lay my sack upon my shoulder. They did soe; and he went to one side of the bridge, and unloosed the mouth of the sacke, and did shake out all his meale into the river. Now neighbours, said he, how much meale is there in my sacke? Marry! there is none at all, said they. Now by my faith, said he, even as much wit is in your heads to strive for that thing you have not. Which was the wisest of all these three persons, judge you?"

It is needless to expatiate on the tales of the two brothers, one of whom wished for as many oxen as he saw stars, whilst the other wishing for a pasture as wide as the firmament, they quarrelled and killed each other, about the pasturage of the oxen; nor shall we show so little respect for the foibles of the fair

fair sex, as to notice the ingenuity of the good woman of Gotham, who when left at home by her husband, with directions to wet the meal before she gave it to the pigs, threw the meal into the well, and the pigs after it: these, and an hundred others, we shall leave for the grave chroniclers of the neighbouring parishes who are all very careful to remember, what the people of Gotham seem rather anxious should be forgotten. The sages of Gotham, indeed, have a tradition that their folly was like Edgar's madness, put on for the occasion; and Mr. Throsby relates that this tradition is, that the *Cuckoo bush* was merely planted to commemorate a trick which the inhabitants of Gotham put upon *King John*, who, passing through this place towards Nottingham, and intending to go over the meadows, was prevented by the villagers who supposed (as men of Gotham might,) that the ground over which a king passed must ever after remain as a public road. The king, incensed at their proceedings, sent from his court soon after some of his officers to enquire of them the reason of their incivility and ill treatment, in order that he might duly apportion the punishment, by way of fine, &c. The Gothamites, hearing of their approach, thought of an expedient to turn away his displeasure; for when the messengers arrived, they found some of the inhabitants endeavouring to drown an eel in a pool of water; some employed in dragging carts upon a large barn, in order to shade the wood from the sun; others were tumbling their cheeses down hill, that they might find their way to Nottingham market for sale; and some employed in hedging in a cuckoo, which had perched upon an old bush that stood where the present one now stands; in short they were all occupied in some foolish way or other, which convinced the king's officers that they were a village of fools! Thus far, Mr. Throsby; but at the same time he quotes some stanzas from an humble village poet, who, with some degree of irritation, attempts to prove that *they* who go to look after the cuckoo bush, are *now* the greatest fools! But then the cuckoo bush is still there; and if the an-

cient Gothamites were so simple as to plant it, we cannot help thinking, that their descendants are not much *wiser* for being *angry* with those who choose to laugh at an ancient jest.

RADCLIFFE UPON SOAR, was once a place of some consequence. "Next Kingston standeth Radclive, alias Ratcliffe upon Soar, which now is the house of Henry Sacheverell, Esq.; but anciently it was the inheritance of one Priott, alias Pigott, and after of the Duke of Buckingham, of whom it was purchased."* At present almost the whole of the ancient manor house has been pulled down, except a small part turned into a farm house; and the old dining room, which is now occupied as a barn. There is, however, a modern seat called Ratcliffe Lodge, the residence of Thomas Boulton, Esq. In the village is a free school for six poor children; and the old, decaying church contains nothing worthy notice, except an humble, yet true and striking, description of mortality and of the comparative rapidity of human life, in an epitaph on Robert Smith† born in the first year in the last century, and died in 1782.

> "Fifty-five years it was and something more,
> Clerk of this parish, he the office bore;
> And in that space, 'tis awful to declare,
> *Two Generations* buried by him were."!

KINGSTON UPON SOAR, is now scarcely deserving of the name of a village. "Upon the same river, (Soar) standeth the towne of Kingston, wherein standeth the ruines of an old house, late of Antho: Babyngton, Esq. attainted in the reign of Elizabeth; but now it is the inheritance of Gilbert Earl of Salop."* Of this building nothing remains but the outward wall of the court and gardens, with an ancient stone gateway, all in a state of dilapidation, and speaking the melancholy tale of other times. The church is very small, with a curious bell turret of the simplest form; it is, however, well worthy the notice of the antiquarian tourist. It consists of two aisles, of the Gothic order, with some small Gothic arches in the chancel of great antiquity;

* Harl. Coll. 368. † Ibid. 368, 53.

antiquity; but its date is carried even further back by the Saxon doorway in the western porch. From the arrangement of the Gothic arches in the walls of the chancel, it is evident that the building has once been much larger; the arch leading from the nave is very curious, but the *Babyngton monument* inside the chancel infinitely more so. This latter consists of a canopy formed on a semicircular arch supported by grotesque pillars, and adorned with upwards of two hundred heads of a *babe* in a *ton*, the common monumental pun on the family name, and which the architect has thought sufficient to designate the owner without any inscription. On the tomb, under this arch, once lay a figure, but that has long since been removed, and the tomb itself bears evident marks of crumbling to dust like its tenant; it is still, however, venerable in ruin, and would have been more so if our modern *Vandals* (for it would be paying them too high a compliment to call them *Goths*,) commonly known by the appellation of *church-wardens*, had not daubed it so completely with yellow ochre, as to have filled up most of the ramifications in the highly embossed foliage of vine leaves which once adorned it in rich alto relief. These beautifiers have been at work on the elegant Gothic remains on the inside of the chancel walls; they have not yet, however, attempted to improve some very ancient armorial bearings on its outside. The carved work and tracery of the east window has also once been curious; but its effect totally destroyed by the white wash and plaister of these *annual connoisseurs!* The country round Kingston is highly cultivated; and the views into Leicestershire, on descending from the hills of the wolds are rich and extensive.

EAST LEAKE, and its companion WEST LEAKE,* are said to derive their names from the Saxon verb "Leccian," to water or moisten, they being both traversed by a small rivulet.

The former is a large village, consisting principally of farm houses; and the church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a handsome

* Sometimes spelled Leak, and Leek.

specimen of the later Gothic, in very good preservation, and having a very handsome turret and spire, containing four well toned bells. In the interior, which is kept in good order, are some ancient benches with curious carvings, which seem to have belonged to an older building. Here is a charity school founded by John Blay, citizen of London, but a native of Leake. He died in 1731, but not before he had bought a piece of ground for its support, for which he paid 45*l.* He also bequeathed 10*l.* to every farmer, and 5*l.* to every cottager in the village.

West Leake has some small remains of an ancient manor house; inhabited some years ago by the family of Chadwick, but now giving shelter to an humble villager's family. The church is very low, and seems of an older date than its companion. In a niche in the north wall are two very old monuments, each containing a recumbent figure; there is also one of a lady in the chancel, but much decayed.

Sutton Bonington consists of two parishes; St. Anne's, and St. Michael's field. The principal church is kept in very decent order, and is built on a large scale, having a nave and two side aisles; the other is much smaller but more ancient and contains one venerable, but much mutilated, monument in the chancel. Though considered now as one town, this was not the case formerly. "next beneath Normanton standeth upon the river, *two towns* called vulgarly Sutton Bonington; but, in truth, the more southerly is Sutton *juxta* Bonington, and the other is Bonington."*

Normanton upon Soar is but a small village, with a very ancient church gone much to decay, and nothing remarkable in it but a large font, used when baptism was performed by dipping. The manor was once in possession of the Willoughby family; but is now the property of two eminent breeders and graziers, Messrs. Buckley and Richards; to the former of whom

* Harl. Coll. 368.

whom the late Duke of Bedford gave 700 guineas for the use of one of his rams, for one season.

STANFORD is a pleasant village on the verge of the county, with a church embowered in thick foliage and forming a very pleasing object. It is pretty large, with a nave and two side aisles, and a very extensive chancel; and the whole kept in in good condition. In the roof of the nave are many figures curiously carved, serving as supporters, and there are several ancient monuments of the Illingworths, and *Lewises* late possessors, with the latter of whom the Dashwood family are connected by marriage. The square tower adorned with pinnacles has a good effect, when seen peeping from amongst the trees; the village is extremely rural; and the parsonage house is a genteel comfortable dwelling.

Stanford Hall, the seat of the late Charles Vere Dashwood, Esq. is a great ornament to this vicinity. It stands about a mile from the village, on a gentle eminence, and looking down upon a pleasing piece of water, with an extensive paddock, and some thriving plantations at the back of the house, formed a pleasing object from the Loughborough road. The modern house was built nearly on the scite of the old manorial edifice about forty years ago, with more attention to domestic comfort, than to external or internal show; it consists of a centre of handsome elevation of three stories, and the two wings assimilate well with the general plan.

The *Dining Room* has some good family portraits; also some landscapes, particularly a very fine moonlight piece. The *Library* also contains some good paintings, with portraits, and a horse by *Stubbs*. The *Drawing Room* is most remarkable for its very fine view over the forest hills in Leicestershire: to the left are Quarndon woods and Mount Sorrel; in front is Loughborough, in the midst of a verdant amphitheatre, with Burley and Garendon park, in the latter of which the mansion forms a fine object, whilst the village and church of Stanford complete the foreground. Now advertised to be let.

Rempstone is a pleasant village in this neighbourhood, containing two good hunting seats belonging to J. Goodere, and W.G.Williams, Esqrs. the old manor house being now turned into a farmer's dwelling. The parochial concerns of this village have undergone a considerable change. The ancient church was St. Peter's in the rushes, standing about half a mile from the village in which was an old chapel long in disuse: but the present church which stands in the village was consecrated in 1773, and built out of the ruins of these two sacred edifices. Its stile is neat, and its interior handsomely arranged; with a tower steeple and five bells; but though the inhabitants are obliged to attend divine service in it, they make but little use of its church yard, chusing rather to mingle with the dust of their departed relatives in the old burying ground, which lies in a retired and sombre situation, and has two ancient tombs, one of which is for an archdeacon of Nottingham.

Thorpe in the Clods is in this neighbourhood, of which we have only to observe that Thoroton, when treating of it, complains heavily that the inclosures had depopulated it so much in his time, as to leave not a house inhabited except some part of the hall, and a Shepherd who kept ale to sell in the church!

Corlinstock or Costock, is on the high road to Loughborough, it is a place of no consequence, though pretty extensive: consisting principally of farm houses. The church is a poor building of one aisle, with a roof like a barn, and a steeple like a dove cote; some remains of painted glass are in the windows, and on the outside wall is part of a mutilated monumental figure, probably the tomb of the founder.

Turning to the left, towards Nottingham, we approach Bunny, a straggling village on the high road, containing about sixty houses, and which seems to have been indebted principally for its origin to the ancient seat of Bunny Park Hall, once the property of the family of Parkyns, and now of their descendant Lord Rancliffe. This family have indeed been great benefactors

factors to the village, as it contains a good school house and hospital, the former being close to the church yard gate and erected in 1709 for the poor children of Bunny and Bradmore; and the latter having four rooms for four poor widows, and endowed by Dame Anne Parkyns with 16*l.* per annum, to which her husband, Sir Thomas, added 5*l.*

The church has a nave and two side aisles; the body is ancient, but the chancel of a more modern date. In the latter is the tomb of Sir Thomas Parkyns, bart. so famous as a wrestler in the last century; also a monument in the body of the church with the date of 1688 for Richard Parkyns, Esq. his wife, four sons, and four daughters.

Bunny Park Hall is a strong looking heavy building close to the road side, with a very heavy gateway in front, built in the ancient style of two centuries ago. The house itself is a massy pile, and its front in its present state has quite the appearance of a ruin; and, being built of brick with stone corners and window cases, has quite a sombre effect. It seems indeed to be the patch work of different periods; but the apartments are lofty and commodious, and contain many good family portraits, amongst which, in particular, are two in the dining parlour of the late Sir Thomas and his Lady, by Vanderbank; but the house having long been unoccupied by its possessor, even these are going to decay. The Park has a fine sheet of water, and a long avenue of fine lofty trees; it has also some good scenery, which, however, Mr. Throsby unfortunately calls *romantic*, though it merely consists of some gentle swells with clumps of forest trees, with a profusion of bramble and other cover for game.

Sir Thomas Parkyns, Bart. who lived in the early part of the last century, was remarkable for his skill in, and fondness for, the *art of wrestling*. By the inscription on his monument in the church, we are informed that he was a great wrestler, and Justice of Peace for Notts and Leicestershire. Also that he new-roofed the chancel, built the vault below, and erected this

monument wrought out of a fine piece of marble by his chaplain in a barn; that he studied Physic for the benefit of his neighbours; wrote the "Cornish Hug Wrestler;" and died in 1741, aged 78.

He had two wives; one a grand-daughter of a London alderman; the other an alderman's daughter of York; he had two or three stone coffins made for himself, in order to take his choice, and there is one of them now in the church unoccupied, and ready for whoever wishes for it. Notwithstanding some eccentricities in his character, he was, however, upright and intelligent, and possessed all the learning of his day; and at his decease was universally lamented as a most excellent magistrate.

On his monument in the church, he is represented in a posture ready for wrestling; and on another part of it, he appears thrown by *Time*, accompanied with a stanza said to be written by Dr. Freind.

"Quem modo stravisti longo in certamine tempus,
Hic recubuit Britonum clarus in orbe pugil,
Jam primus stratus: præter te vicerat omnes;
De te etiam victor, quando resurget, erit."

This whimsical epitaph has been translated,

"At length he falls, the long, long contest's o'er,
And Time has thrown, whom none e'er threw before;
Yet boast not Time! thy victory, for he
At last shall rise again, and conquer thee."

Through his great fondness for this manly exercise, he trained not only his servants and neighbours, but also many others to it, and often exhibited his pupils on public occasions with no little fame: and by his will he left a guinea to be wrestled for every Midsummer's day, as well as money to the ringers, of whom he always made one upon these occasions. His fondness for displaying his skill in *Latin* was almost equal to that of wrestling: over a seat which formerly stood by the road side, was this inscription:

"Hic sedeas Viator si tu defessus es ambulando."

Nay,

Nay, even his horse block was made a reporter to posterity of the honour of a visit from a Judge on the circuit by, "Hinc Justiciarius Dormer equum ascendere solebat!"

His book on the "In play, or the Cornish Hug Wrestler," contains many quaint specimens not only of his style but of his ideas on that subject; and an admirer of his, a Mr. Tunstall, says in a prefatory address, that Horace was wrong in satirizing the Roman youths for hissing the tragedies at the Amphitheatre and calling for their wrestlers and boxers;—he then prophesies that,

"—— Vig'rous youths will exercise the field,
And fam'd *Olympia*, to thy *Bunny* yield;
Then new epochas from thy sports shall rise,
And future years be reckon'd from thy prize;*
And men shall question where the date to place,
To thy new annals, or to Anna's peace——
The limber minuet, and fantastic shrug,
Shall yield the honour to thy Cornish Hugg.
Then cheated damsels shall no more embrace
The feeble offspring of a flimsy race,
But quit their Bullies, and discard their Beaux,
And from thy ring their lusty husbands choose."

Sir Thomas himself, in speaking of the excellence of his art, says "I receive no limberhams, no darling sucking bottles who must not rise at Midsummer till eleven of the clock, till the fire has aired his room, and clothes, of his colliquative sweats, raised by high sauces and spicy forced meats, where the cook does the office of the stomach, with the emetic tea table, set out with bread and butter for 's breakfast; I'll scarce admit a Sheep eater; none but beef eaters will go down with me." He then endeavours to inspire his readers with a fondness for the art by the hopes of gaining the approbation of the fair sex, laughs at the Norfolk Out play, and (though with a marginal

* Of a guinea a year at Midsummer!!!

marginal note of *Honi soit qui mal y pense,*) gives a sly hint about the Bedfordshire In play, and the close Cornish Hug.

Near to Bunny is *Bradmore*, a mere hamlet, but noticed here from its having a Tower and spire *without a church*: the latter was burnt down some years ago, and the inhabitants go to

RUDDINGTON, which, however, is only a Chapelry to *Flawford* the mother church, standing in a field. This ancient church, built in the Saxon style, had a lofty spire steeple and many curious monuments with cross-legged figures; but having been long neglected, and become so ruinous as to be in danger of falling, a license was obtained from the archbishop in 1773, to pull it down. For this purpose some of the workmen from the neighbouring collieries were employed, who, by their architectural skill joined to the taste of the church wardens for the time being, contrived to mutilate and even to destroy almost all the monumental memorials. Indeed Mr. Throsby asserts that the materials were taken to mend the roads, to build bridges, and erect pigsties, and the grave stones taken up to cover the sink holes in the village streets!

The village of Ruddington itself is of considerable size; it has a respectable freeschool founded by James Peacock, citizen of London in 1641; and here also was formerly a college founded by William Babyngton, Esq. by license of king Henry the sixth, for a warden and four chaplains, which he endowed with revenues valued at 30*l.**

The chapel is of considerable antiquity, and is mentioned by Thoroton; and here is every Sunday a dole of bread to the poor who attend Divine Service, amounting to four dozen and a half of loaves.

The tourist will find much amusement in his ramble to the south east of Nottingham, (still in Rushcliffe hundred) and the first object of his notice, after admiring the commodious canal with its bridges, wharfs, &c. will be

WEST

* Tanner's Monasticon.

West Bridgford, a pleasing well built, little village. Its church is dedicated to St. Giles, and consists of a nave and side aisle; its light tower, which contains three bells, appears to great advantage peeping above the trees which surround it; its interior is kept in very neat order, and it has still some remains of armorial glass, which the annual beautifiers have not yet begun to whitewash. "The Trent goes from Clifton to the bridge of Nottingham, called the Trent bridge, and anciently *Hethe bothe* bridges; at the south end whereof is the town of Bridgeford built by the famous Lady of Mercia, to repress the violence of the Danes, who possessed Nottingham." *

Edwalton is a small village on the London road, not very remarkable for neatness or comfort; but this must in a great degree be attributed to its moorish situation. Thoroby says, that some years ago the land could scarcely be let at any price; the improved system of drainage, however, has now improved the parish, consisting of 700 acres of old inclosure. In the yard of the chapel, which is dedicated to the Holyrood, there is a grave stone of an old woman, who possessing some landed property, was supposed by the sepulchral poet of the village to have lived upon the fat of the land, as he has added to the usual obituary notice,

> "She drank good ale, good punch, and wine;
> And liv'd to the age of ninety nine."

Tollerton Hall the seat of Pendoc Neale Barry, Esq. is a short distance from Edwalton. The house has been lately rebuilt in imitation of the Gothic with towers, turrets, &c. and with a cloister which communicates with the church. It is a pleasing looking building; but wants that vastness both of height and extent which is the very essence of *Gothic sublimity*, and without which, towers, turrets, and pointed windows, are almost

* Harl. Col. 368. 53.

almost as absurd as battlements on a pigstye, or a hay cart! The grounds are very extensive, and if put into good order would have a fine effect, though they lie entirely on a flat. The new gateway, and the lodge near it, together with the bridge, will all assimilate well with the surrounding scenery.

The village is very small, the church ancient; and the Parsonage house a comfortable and respectable looking residence.

To give even slight notices of *Cotgrave*, *Plumtre*, and several other pleasing little villages in this neighbourhood, would far exceed our possible limits; nor can we say more of *Keyworth*, than, that although a village of not more than thirty houses, it has not only a church but also a meeting house lately erected. The church, which is dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, has a nave and two dark side aisles, and a curious tower with another raised upon it.

STANTON ON THE WOLDS, is another small place in this neighbourhood, which we were not tempted to examine with any very critical accuracy whilst pedestrianising over the Wolds; but Throsby says, that the church is below description and is of all others, within and without (with respect to the latter of which we can fully agree with him) the most despicable he ever saw. When he was here about twenty years ago, one family only went to it, making a congregation of four or five; and the other families, he says, were all either Dissenters or Absenters, and like the pious folks in Cromwell's time amused themselves with breaking the church windows. By the parish register of 1788, it appears that a young damsel of the parish was baptized and married on the same day; at the age of twenty.

In this neighbourhood the remains of the ancient Fosseway are in high preservation, or more strictly speaking, have not yet been destroyed. Horsley observes, * that this Fosseway proceeds directly from Bath to Lincoln, and has been continued *beyond* Bath as far as Ilchester, if not quite to the sea. Stukely

* Horsley Britan. Rom. 388.

ly, indeed, thinks it has been carried as far as Seaton on the coast. Great part of this road, which is undoubtedly of Roman workmanship, has had no part of an *Iter* on it, though running through the very heart of the kingdom, except in the latter part of the sixth Iter of Antoninus and middle part of the eighth; but the route from *Venonis* (Claycester) to *Lindum*, (now Lincoln) has undoubtedly, in the opinion of Horsley, been on the other part of it, and he seems to join in the opinion of others that it has been continued from Lincoln to the sea coast.

Speaking of the *Lodge upon the Wolds*, which is in this neighbourhood, Stukeley says that in 1724 here was an Inn, under a great wood upon the declension of a stiff clayey hill. Here the pavement upon the road is very manifest, of great blue flag stones laid edgeways very carefully. The quarries, whence they took them, are upon the side of the hill. This pavement is two feet broad or more, and is still very visible where not covered with dirt.* It is still in the same state, and gives a very good idea of the ancient Roman roads; and about Owthorpe particularly is so sunk in the *Fosse*, that an army might be marched without observation for many miles.

Owthorpe Hall is now a venerable pile, and stands in a very retired situation, forming an object of considerable interest from its connection with a man of some eminence during the civil wars.

Colonel Julius Hutchinson, its founder, was an active parliamentary partizan in this county during that unhappy period, and was for some time governor of Nottingham Castle. Though he sat in judgement upon his unfortunate Sovereign, yet it appears that no very active means were taken to apprehend him at the Restoration, and he seems to have lived *secretly*, though perhaps by a tacit forbearance, in his house at Owthorpe for some years, in which was a room made for defence, as Throsby says, with apertures to fire through in case of an attempt to take

* Vide Stukeley's Itinerary.

take him. Such a defence as this, indeed, could never have been seriously intended, and would have been of very little avail. He had no opportunity of trying it, however, for he was seized within a few yards of his own house, whilst on his way to the church that stands within less than a stone's throw of it, in the year 1663 at a period when many were taken up for supposed treasonable offences; some tried, and others imprisoned for life, amongst the latter of whom was the Colonel. Mr. Dickinson in his History of Southwell, observes that though old and infirm, and particularly out of health, yet he was hurried in a dark night by a party of horse under the command of Cornet Atkinson, without open accusation or written warrant, from his dwelling to the gaol at Newark, where he was detained for several days. Now we will grant that this treatment was illegal, and unconstitutional; yet surely Colonel Hutchinson, who, without legal warrant but merely by a precept issued by rebels, had sat upon the trial of his Sovereign, and without any law whatever had condemned him to death, must have been the last person to complain of illegal treatment!

The house itself is now occupied by a maiden lady who lives in great retirement.* It is large, and forms a square, with handsome, lofty, and convenient apartments, but with little ornament. A handsome flight of steps leads into a hall, which occupies the centre of the edifice and is lighted by two large windows at the entrance, and by one of very considerable size at the further end. The view from it is very fine, as it stands on an eminence at a small distance from the foot of the range of hills, below which the Fosseway takes its direction, and the eastern side opens upon a very fine terrace; but as the house has been almost deserted ever since the beginning of the last century its gardens and grounds are quite in a state of desolation. The Editor of the Colonel's Memoirs, when speaking of

* Miss Renshaw is the occupant. The present possessor of Owthorpe, by purchase in 1773, is Sir George Smith Bromley, Bart.

of the sale of this place, observes that the most extraordinary and gratifying circumstance (to the existing descendants) was the veneration for the family which still subsisted, and which at the period when the last possessor had by his will ordered this and all his estates in Nottinghamshire to be sold, and the produce given to strangers, induced the tenants to offer a large advance of their rents, and a good share of the money necessary for purchasing the estates, in order to enable the remains of the family to come and settle among them.

The church which is very small, and dedicated to St. Margaret, stands near the house. It consists only of the nave and one aisle, with a small chancel. The tower is low, and has but one bell. Within are several large monuments of the Hutchinson family, consisting of figures as large as life laying under canopies supported by carved and twisted pillars, &c. and decorated with all the monumental frippery of the seventeenth century.

Colston Basset is close to Owthorpe, and is a pleasing little village, with a very elegant house, the residence of William Milnes, Esq. The church has a peal of five very deep and solemn toned bells. The villagers have a tradition that, when this place was suffering under the plague in 1604, the inhabitants of Nottingham and Bingham not only refused to permit any articles to be brought from hence to their markets, but even cut off all communication with them whatever, so that they were left to shift for themselves, to live or die, as it pleased God.

Kinoulton may be distinguished from hence by the lofty tower of its chapel, which we believe has been lately rebuilt, having long been in a wretched state. The church, dedicated to St. Wilford, is now a ruin at some distance from the village; but there is nothing further worthy of notice.

At Hickling some silver Roman coins have been found; which are in confirmation of the opinion of Camden, that it was a Roman station in the neighbourhood of the Fosseway.

WILLOUGHBY ON THE WOLD is considered by Horsley as an ancient Roman station, and as the *Vernometum* so often mistaken for *Margidunum*.

The village is pretty extensive, and has an appearance extremely rural, from the whole length of it being shaded by a double row of trees, whose thick embowering foliage shelters its beautiful cottages. Though so retired in its situation, it could not, however, escape the baneful effects of civil commotion, but was the scene of a bloody contest in the unhappy days of Charles, an action having taken place here at *Willoughby field*. A cross of a lofty construction stands in the centre of the village, but having no inscription, its origin or date is unknown. It consists of one stone, five yards long; and its appearance gave such offence to the pious soldiery of Cromwell in the civil wars, that they had tied ropes round it in order to pull it down; but their religious enthusiasm was so much damped by some strong beer given to them by the vicar, after he had made a long speech in defence of its innocence, that it was permitted by those apostles of the church militant to remain unmolested.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary and All Saints, and has a nave with two side aisles; one of which is inclosed by railing in order to preserve the family memorials of the Willoughbys. In this latter, at the entrance is a stone with this inscription:

"Here lieth the body of Colonel Stanhope, who was slain in Willoughby field in the month of July 1648, in the 24th year of his age, being a soldier of king Charles the 1st."

A table monument surrounded with battlements, stands in the centre, with angels in niches; on it lies a knight in armour with a roll or wreath round his helmet, and by his side his lady with a curious mitred head dress.

A very graceful monumental figure of a lady, with a dog at her feet, is placed under the south wall; and in the choir, under an arched wall, with plain modern pillars supporting it in front,

front, there is another knight in warlike caparison, his tomb completely covered with armorial bearings.

Willoughby Brook lies between Willoughby and Over-Broughton; and on the Willoughby side of the road, there is a tumulus which marks the vicinity of the Roman station. This is now called Crosshill; and there is a revel or annual festival held upon it, which is supposed to be founded on some traditionary festival of the Roman mythology.

Stukely tells us that the old Roman town (of which the remains of the *agger*, or ditch and mound surrounding the camp still exist) was in a field called "Henings," a British word allusive to the ancient meadows. Here, according to the tradition, there was an old city once called *Long Billington*; but since that, the Blackfield, in common discourse, from the colour and excessive richness of the soil which never requires manure.

Tradition also says, that at a barn at a place called *Wells*, there once was a church; and also that the city once extended so far. Stukely adds, that in his time the people in the vicinity had a notion of great riches being under ground; and that there was a vulgar report, that one balk or mere (that is a division between the plowed fields) had as much money under it as would have purchased the whole lordship; but it seems they had been often frightened by spirits whilst attempting to dig it up, of which also there were many curious stories. Notwithstanding these sprites, however, of late years some coins and other antiquities have been found.

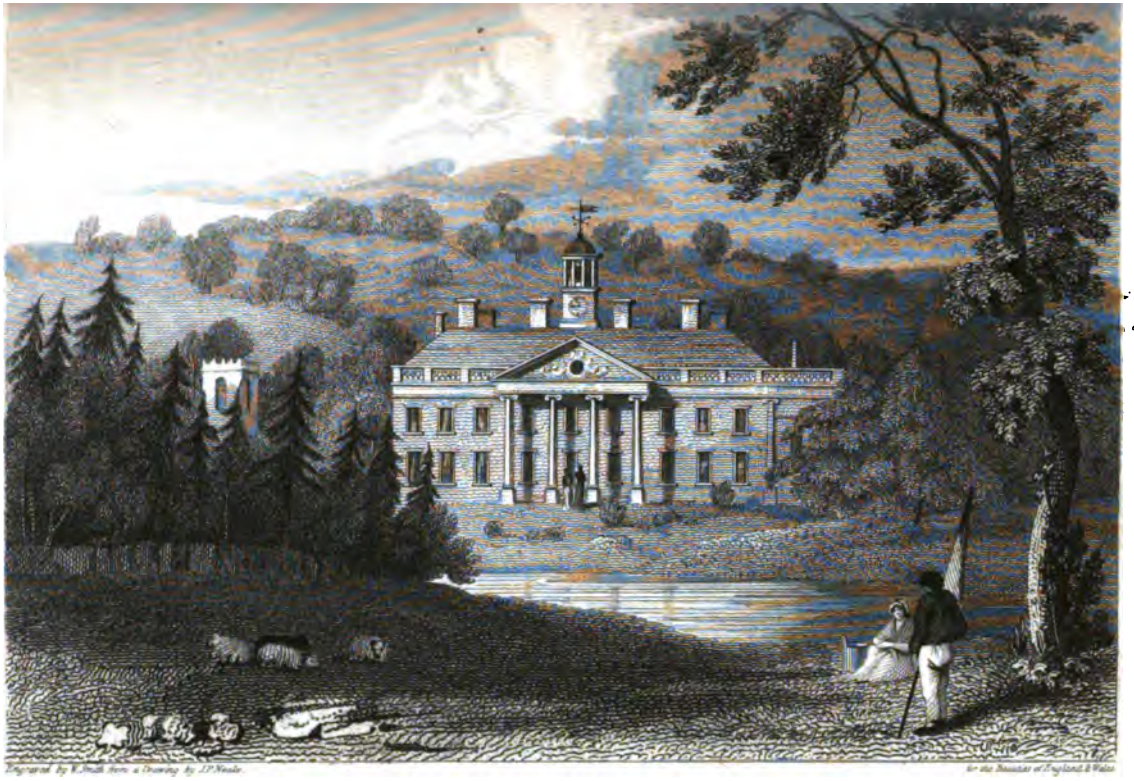
Upper or Over Broughton has nothing remarkable; but we mention it as a pleasant village, and the last on the London road, being on the very verge of Leicestershire. Near it also is *Widmerpoole* through which runs the coach road; and the country rising here from the vale of Belvoir, into the Leicestershire hills, produces a diversity of prospect extremely pleasing.

The tourist will not quit the environs of Nottingham, without

visiting COLWICK HALL, the seat of the *Musters* family, which though standing on a flat, yet being backed with some fine wooded hills, and having the silver Trent in front, with the extensive plains on its southern bank, has a very impressive appearance. It is about three miles from Nottingham, on the north bank of the river, and forms the termination to a most agreeable evening's walk. The steep rock at its rear, rising in abrupt precipices, and finely tufted with overhanging wood, produces a good effect in every point of view, and in the [illegible] the silent hour of evening, throws a sombre shade over the village church embosomed in foliage. The Park is but small, but comprehends much of this charming scenery within its pale, and is stocked with the antlered natives of the forest. The pleasure grounds and ornamental plantations are, comparatively, more extensive than the park, and exhibit a good specimen of modern improvement engrafted on the ancient model. But the house is the principal object, and consists of a very elegantly elevated centre crowned with a pediment resting on four well proportioned Ionic pillars, and joined by two wings of one lofty story with entablature supported by square pilasters with plain capitals, and lightened much in its effect by a handsome ballustraded parapet; the whole doing much credit, not only to the inventive genius of the designer, Mr. John Carr of York, but also to the executive taste of the superintending architect, Mr. Stretton. In the grounds there is also a well constructed, and indeed even elegant, dogkennel, conducted by the same artists.

The *Church* which stands close to the house, is dedicated to St. John the Baptist, and contains some ancient monuments of the Byron family; also for that of Musters, the present possessors, by one of which on the north side of the chancel it appears that the chancel was rebuilt, and the church repaired, by Sir John Musters, knt. in 1684.

CARLTON is a village of considerable size, near to Colwick, and is entirely supported by the stocking manufacture; here



Engraved by W. Smith from a Drawing by J.P. Neale.

for the Beauties of England & Wales

COLWICK HALL,
Nottinghamshire.

London Published by John Harris St Pauls Church Yard May 1.1815

also is GEDLING, of which we find nothing remarkable, except a curious fact of an old soldier who died in the workhouse in 1797, in the 96th year of his age, and having been in all the battles in the German war about the middle of the last century, enjoyed a pension from Government, which enabled him to live comfortably; but having tried to live in several families in the village, at last boarded himself in the workhouse, where he resided for many years. Mr. Throsby, indeed, tells a long story of two stone coffins in the church yard, which have occasionally had different tenants, who on these occasions, like the victims on the iron bed of *Procrustes*, were always made to fit them. He also mentions a stone which "bare this inscription, but now defaced,——" Here lieth the body of Joseph Smalley, whose mother was 60 years old, when he was born."

On the opposite side of the river is HOLME PIERPOINT, a pleasant but very small village. "Within this hundred (Bingham) about two miles beneath the bridges of Notts, upon the said river, is the town of Holme, called Holme Pierpoint, in which is the possession of Sir Henry Pierpoint, a very ancient gentleman of the shire. Before it was the inheritance of one Manvers, whose heire the ancestor of Sir Henry Pierpoint married about the time of Edward 1st."

HOLME PIERPOINT HOUSE is still a large and ancient building, though much of it at times has been pulled down. It stands close to the church, and is now completely repaired and cased in imitation of stone, forming a very handsome specimen of the Gothic of the later ages.

The *church* is rich in mural monuments, in altar tombs, and in ancient armorial brasses. Its form is Gothic, but in the style of the time of Henry the seventh, with large and numerous windows, a square tower, and a handsome lofty spire, and consisting of a nave and side aisle.

The family vault of the late dukes of Kingston, and of the present Pierpoint family, is in the north side of the choir, with a lofty monument over it supported by Corinthian pil-

lars, and most gloomily ornamented with death's heads in wreaths, intermixed with fruit and foliage. Its inscription is rather in a superior style of sepulchral bombast. "Here lyeth the *Illustrious Princess* Gertrude, Countess of Kingston, daughter to Henry Talbot, Esq. son to George late Earl of Shrewsbury. She was married to the most Noble and Excellent Lord Robert, Earl of Kingston, &c." A very fine altar tomb to the memory of Sir Henry Pierpoint, knt. in 1615, is on the south side; he is in armour, and in the usual attitude of prayer. On the sides of the tomb are a son, four daughters, and an infant in swaddling clothes; and over it a highly ornamented tablet containing the inscription. Near it is another who, by his habit of a pilgrim, seems to have been to the Holy Land; he has angels playing round his head. Here too was buried young *Oldham*, considered as a poet of considerable merit, and patronized by William Earl of Kingston, who also wrote the very elegant inscription on his monument.

RADCLIFFE ON TRENT near to this, is particularly remarkable for its very romantic scenery, standing upon a lofty cliff on the south bank of Trent, from which it takes its name, and which affords it some very fine prospects over the vale watered by that meandering river. Its vicinity is extremely pleasing from the goodness of the roads, and from the number of genteel villas which embellish it. The village itself is very extensive, and is very active in the hosiery manufactory. The church dedicated to St. Mary, has a handsome spire steeple, with four bells; the nave and chancel are both spacious, and kept in good order; but the only monument of note is a wooden figure of Stephen Ratcliffe the founder, and which must therefore be very ancient.*

BINGHAM

It has been proposed as a question to antiquaries, *why* are *wooden* monumental figures set up, in places where stone might have been easily procured? but never answered.

BINGHAM

lies a short distance from Radcliffe. Its situation is rather low; but being surrounded with high grounds all in a rich state of cultivation, the views in its vicinity are both extensive and pleasing. The town itself, though once of considerable repute from its religious establishment and collegiate church, of a date nearly as old as the Conquest, is now nothing but an inconsiderable straggling place, but still possessing a market, and several fairs: these are on February the 13th and 14th for horses, for agricultural purposes, and for draught; on the first Thursday in May for horses, horned cattle, sheep, and swine; and on Whitsun-Thursday, 31st May, 8th and 9th of November, for young horses and hops.

Bingham once contained the college of St. Mary, which Tanner, in his Monasticon, observes was valued, according to Speed, at 40*l.*; but he merely calls it a Guild, rated at 4*l.* Of this, however, there are now no vestiges, nor of two chapels which once had existence, as well as a chantry in the chapel of St. Elen. The market place is very extensive, and has very commodious shambles; but has nothing else worthy of notice. Near it is the vicarage, a handsome modern dwelling, attached to a living of very considerable value. The church deserves the attention of the curious traveller. It is a specimen of the ancient Gothic; and though a heavy building badly lighted, owing indeed to a considerable part of the nave being taken down in 1584 when it was completely repaired, it still possesses an air of ecclesiastical magnificence. The chancel is lofty and spacious, and has a very fine arch joining it to the body of the church, but some of the ornaments over this arch cannot fail of exciting the risibility of the stranger, consisting of the royal arms of queen Anne, surrounded with gaudy ornaments of plaister work, with a large collection of chubby cherubs, amongst whom the aspiring church wardens of that day have

contrived to introduce their own names, as bringing them one step nearer to heaven. This curious *melange*, however, with all its incongruity, is considered as the principal *lion* of the town.

The chancel has been lately ceiled, with other improvements at the expense of a late incumbent; and the nave and two side aisles are very spacious. Here are many tombs, but none of any particular merit. Mr. Throsby, indeed, remarks that all the *ladies* have remarkably good characters on their tombstones; and he, therefore, concludes that even now a man might have a chance for a good wife here.

Here is a good Charity School for children of both sexes; but originally erected for the education and support of thirty poor boys, by the benevolent subscriptions of the neighbouring gentry.

It is a curious fact that in the recent returns of population, the sexes in Bingham were stated to be *equal*, or 663 of each, amounting to 1326.

Since the Conquest this place has gone through a variety of possessors, and once belonged to a family to which it gave a name. They, however, seem to have lost all property here, and it has since come to various hands.

With respect to its biography, we must not omit to mention a Mr. White, who, though in the humble station of a schoolmaster here, was yet recommended by Dr. Maskelyne to his Majesty as a proper person to assist in the prosecution of a very considerable astronomical work, which, nevertheless, he modestly declined. He was for many years, the compiler of almanacks for the Stationers' company, and published the "Celestial Atlas" which was so long in very high repute. His astronomical knowledge appears to have been entirely the result of his own industry; he died in 1783 at the age of 61.

A curious instance of bigotry, beyond the grave, is recorded here of one Henry Porter, who, differing in opinion with his relatives on religious matters, actually gave orders that his body should

should not be buried among them, but against the north wall on the outside of the church.

Mr. Throsby, in his additions to Thoroton, gives a long list of events, amongst which are some anecdotes of a drunken clergyman, and of another who for a series of years was insane: but these perhaps are memorabilia which we ought only to remember to forget. Nor is it particularly necessary to record the breaking open of the church, or the setting fire to the town in 1710. Two of his instances, however, we may notice: one of twelve young men, whose united exertions in some *histrionic efforts* in the winter of 1783 enabled them to raise 100*l.* to be settled on the poor of the parish for ever; and the other of Thomas Groves, a poor lad, born in 1700, and put out apprentice to a cabinet maker from whose service he eloped, and having entered as a private in the marine corps, rose at length to the rank of Colonel, dying in 1790, after seventy five years of service.

Shelford stands on the banks of the Trent, in a north west direction from Bingham. Here was an Austin priory, built by Ralph Hanselyn in the time of Henry the second, to the honour of the blessed virgin Mary:* the scite of which at the dissolution was granted to Michael Stanhope, ancestor of the Chesterfield family, the present possessors. Here was an ancient mansion of the family; but burnt down in the civil wars, having been a garrison for king Charles the first. At that time Colonel Stanhope, son of the first earl of Chesterfield, was governor; but was slain when it was taken by storm by the Parliamentarian troops. Some years after this, the family made some additions to, and repairs of, that part standing after the effects of the fire; it has now the appearance of the ancient manor houses of that period, but is inhabited by a farmer. The church, a respectable building, contains many monuments of the Stanhope family; and in the vault is interred the late earl.

Some of the earlier generations of this family built and endowed

* Tanner's Monasticon.

dowed in the village an almshouse, with a chapel attached to it, for six poor men, batchelors or widowers. To each there is assigned a house, a garden, and orchard; they have also an allowance of coals, two shillings per week, and a cap and coat every year. These, however, are now reduced to four, of whom one is from Shelford parish, another from Gedling, and two chosen by the incumbent of Bingham. Throsby gives a curious plate of what he calls a whimsical and puzzling inscription, on four sides of a long square stone in the church yard; but this is nothing more than a simple epitaph; and the secret of the enigma is, merely to read the west side first, and then take the south, east, and north sides from line to line, as one inscription.

East Bridgeford is a short distance from Shelford, on the banks of the Trent, and is a very ancient village having indubitable remains of a Roman camp pointing it out as one of their stations; and confirmed, with respect to its chronology, by many coins, urns, and other antiquities, dug up at various times. This place has likewise been the possession and residence of many ancient families, there being still much armorial glass in the church, of Dering, Deyncourt, Babington, &c. It is evident too that the church was once on a much larger scale; but from the decay of the place itself, from inattention, and perhaps from sacrilegious hands taking away its venerable walls for humbler purposes, it is now not only reduced in size, but has suffered much from actual dilapidation, whilst many of the monuments have been defaced, others much mutilated, and some removed into the church yard to perish through the attacks of weather. It was, however, in a much worse state in Mr. Throsby's time; indeed, he complains of it very much.

Here is a Charity School supported by private contribution, for teaching English and the catechism, to ten poor boys.

In modern history, this village is remarkable as being the birth place of the regicidal parliamentarian Colonel Hacker, who attended the unfortunate Charles to his last scene, for which

which he afterwards suffered as a traitor, and his estates were confiscated; yet his two brothers were active partizans in the royal cause, for which one of them was slain.

But Bridgeford is most worthy of notice for its early history. Stukely says that it lies near a mile to the right of the Roman station, *Ad pontem*, and adds that doubtless there was a bridge here in the Roman times. He then says, "here were formerly great buildings and cellars on the right hand as you descend to the Trent, and a quay for vessels to unload at. The Roman station upon the fosse, I found to be called Boroughfield, west of the road. Here a spring was under the hedge, called *Oldwark spring*, very quick, running over a fine gravel, the only one hereabouts that falls eastward, and not directly into the Trent. Hereabouts I saw the Roman foundations of walls and floors of houses, composed of stones set edgeways into clay, and liquid mortar run upon them. About a mile from this last station, upon an eminence of the road beyond Bingham lane, there is a tumulus, from whence a fine prospect of Belvoir, &c."*

Horseley, however, does not coincide with him in the opinion of *Ad Pontem*, being in this neighbourhood, but considers this place as the *Margidunum* of the sixth Iter of Antoninus; and though he does not decide absolutely whether Newark or Southwell is the true *Ad pontem*, yet he confirms his idea respecting this place not only by the actual admeasurement, but by the consideration that it is often called Bridgeford *on the hill*, to which he conceives its ancient adjunct of *dunum* had a reference. "This station of *Margidunum*† is distant from Vernometum thirteen miles, according to this Iter; but only twelve, according to the 8th. The latter seems to be the truer number, unless we suppose the truth to be between the two. If we proceed across the Fosse, the next station that offers itself, is East Bridgeford. The name has led most of our antiquaries into the opinion

* Stukeley's Itinerary. † Horsley's Britan. Roman. 438.

opinion of its being *Ad pontem;* but the numbers and distances ought to preponderate." We shall notice this question more fully when we come to *Southwell.*

Screveton is principally remarkable as the birth place and residence of Dr. Thoroton, the earliest topographer of this country; and here still remains the old manor house of the family. In *Carcolston,* near to this, is another building erected by the Dr. himself, but now in ruins. "Now is found Screveton, alias Screaton, where is the beautiful house of Richard Whalley, Esq. whose ancestor married the daughter and heir of one Leck, or rather Leake, about the time of Henry the seventh, who was owner thereof."* The manor then came to the Thorotons, and is still their property; and Thomas Thoroton, Esq. a descendant of the worthy and learned doctor, has now his residence here.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Winifred, is a neat edifice, with a nave and two side aisles; the tower steeple contains a small ring of three bells; and the curious old font, which is still in high preservation, is worthy of notice: there are several ancient monuments of the Whalleys.

Whatton, which lies about two miles east from Bingham, comprehends in its parish the chapelry of *Aslacton,* the chapel of which small village or hamlet dedicated to the patron saint of the parish is now a total ruin, but has been lately converted into a dwelling house.

The church of *Whatton* is dedicated to St. John of Beverley, stands on a rising ground on the north side of the village, and consists of a body, two aisles, and a chancel; with a tower at the angle formed by the north aisle and chancel. The nave rests on three pointed arches on each side, with octagon pillars.

Against the north-east pillar is fixed up a white slab, with the figure of a man in flowing hair and gown, and a purse at his right side, his hand on a cushion, and round him, on a ledge in black letter.

* Hic

* Harl. Coll. p. 368.

"Hic jacet Thomas Cranmer Armiger, qui obiit vicesimo septimo die mensis maii anno dni mv. mv. centesimo primo cui aie ppciatur Deus. Amen."

It has also several armorial coats, and was raised in memory of the father of the famous Archbishop Cranmer, born in 1489 at Aslacton; and which manor came to the family by the marriage with the heiress of the Aslactons, passed by an heiress of Cranmer to Molyneux, and is now the property of the Pierpoint family.

The font is deserving of notice; not for its antiquity which is but recent, by a date of 1662 on the shaft, but from its ornaments, consisting of a rose, tulip, fleur de lis, &c.

The monuments are various. Two arches have been made in the north wall of the north aisle; one of these is empty; under the other is a priest with curled hair, and his head resting on a double cushion; in the middle of this aisle, a cross-legged Knight in armour lies on a raised tomb, Sir Richard Whatton; and an altar tomb with an armed knight in alabaster, one of the family of Newmarch, is placed at the east end of the south aisle, now converted into a schoolhouse. The chancel is quite plain; and, being fitted up with modern seats and desks, has lost its venerable air; but the style of the church plainly bespeaks it to be of the time of the Edwards. The windows are particularly deserving the notice of the Gothic architect, being very elegant specimens of the *lancet arch*, and of ornamental tracery; in the east window of the north aisle, in particular, there is a very rich specimen of the *quatrefoil*. Of the state of *Aslacton*, as cotemporary with *Cranmer*, we have the following account from Leland: "And coming near toward Mile Brooke, I left about a mile on the left hande Aslacton village in Nottinghamshire, where Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Cantorbyri, was born, and where the heire of the Cranmers, a man scant of XL markes landes by the yere now dwellith."

The manor house and grounds are now the property of Mr. Marriot.

Merriot. A modern farm house occupies the scite; and some years ago had some curious relics of the Cranmer family. Here also may be traced several moats, islands, and other remains of the pleasure grounds. At a small distance from the house is a raised walk of three or four feet, and more than one hundred yards long, which leads to Orston, and is still called "Cranmer's Walk." At the west end, on crossing a moat, the visitor may ascend a square mount of considerable elevation, and from thence have a pretty extensive prospect.

Of the ancient chapel, now in ruins, part of the walls still remain; these are visible under a modern built house of brick and tile; and the chapel itself is now a common alehouse.*

The ARCHBISHOP was born on the second of July 1489; and, being placed at an early age under a private tutor, was soon fitted for the completion of his studies at Jesus College, Cambridge. He graduated, and entered into priests' orders, became a fellow of the college, completed his degree of D. D. and was soon after entrusted by Mr. Cressy, a gentleman of large fortune residing at Waltham abbey in Essex, with the care of his two sons; but the plague breaking out in the university, Dr. Cranmer retired with his pupils to their father's house.

At this period Henry the eighth came to Waltham abbey, during the arrangements for his divorce, which, however, went on too slowly for the monarch's impatience. Two of his principal ecclesiastical agents lodged in Mr. Cressy's house, and were much gratified in finding a man of Cranmer's learning and undaunted spirit, not only approving the measure as much as they did themselves, but even inclined to enter on it more boldly than they dared to do. When asked his opinion respecting the propriety of opposing the pope's mandates and the intrigues of his agents, Cranmer at once recommended that the sufferings of the king's *conscience*, respecting a marriage with his brother's wife, should be referred, not to the pope and his dispensing power, but to the word of God and an assembly of divines; and also,

* Vide further, Gent's. Mag. Vol. 62, Part II. 991.

also, that this should take place in the English universities, and not in the ecclesiastical courts of any other nation; adding, that if the cause was once determined by the authority of scripture, the pope could not possibly have power to overturn it, not having authority to dispense with the word of God!* When the monarch heard of this opinion. "Aye" said he, "this man hath the sow by the right ear;" he immediately sent for him, and not only employed him in the work at home, but in writing and in embassies to the pope, and the different European princes, until he had not only the consent of the English universities, but also of all the foreign powers concerned, or presuming to be concerned, in this business.

On the death of archbishop Warham Cranmer was immediately appointed to the metropolitan see, and was under the new order of things, then just commencing, considered as the ecclesiastical head of the church in England, without the interference of the pope's legate; and was also entrusted with many civil commissions by Henry, whose favour he had gained, by not only pronouncing the sentence of divorce against Catharine, but also uniting him to his then favourite Anna Boleyn.

When Henry asserted his supremacy in ecclesiastical affairs, Cranmer supported him against the pope's claims; he also aided much in the dissolution of the monastic societies, and encouraged the cause of rational religion, by causing the Bible to be translated into English, and a copy of it to be placed in every church in the kingdom. This part of the Reformation was much expedited by the discovery of printing, which had then taken place, though not many years before.† A copy of this work was presented to the king, and is now preserved in the British Museum.

The appropriation of the revenues of the convents, for the establishment

* This, however, was a power which the Pope then claimed, and which the Catholics admitted; nor do we know that it is even now denied.

† Printing began to be used in England in 1453, about 50 years before Henry's accession.

establishment of freeschools, was a measure of his recommendation; but this took place only in a few instances, as the profuse monarch found a pleasanter mode of spending these large sums: yet though thwarted in some things, Cranmer still used every means in his power to aid the cause of the Reformation. By this, he became so obnoxious to the Catholic hierarchy, to the pope and his agents, that every means were taken to excite the public discontent against him; the power of Henry, however, was his protection; and it is said that Cranmer, of all that monarch's favourites, was the only one for whom he preserved a sincere respect to the very last.

During this period, the faction which opposed him had so far lost sight of propriety as to bring charges against him in Parliament, which they could find no person willing to undertake except Sir John Gostwike, Knt.; and this person ventured to accuse him of preaching heresy at Sandwich in Kent. When the king was acquainted with this, "How comes Gostwike," said he, "who dwells in Bedfordshire, or Buckinghamshire, to hear my lord of Canterbury preaching in Kent? Go!" added he to a gentleman of the privy chamber, "and tell him, that if he does not go to the archbishop, and reconcile himself to him, I will pluck his goslin's feathers so, that he shall never again have an heart to slander our metropolitan, or any other learned man."

On the death of Henry, and the accession of the youthful Edward, he performed the coronation office; and was soon after appointed with other bishops to compose the homilies; the act of Parliament also for the Common Prayer took place through his recommendation and influence. But having joined the party of Lady Jane Grey,* on the demise of the young monarch, the ruling powers caused him to be committed to the tower, and attainted of high treason, for which, however, he obtained a pardon

* This lady's proper name was *Dudley*, as the wife of Lord Guildford Dudley: it is curious that historians should, notwithstanding, always designate her by her maiden name.

a pardon from Mary. Yet he was immediately after conveyed to Oxford, and condemned for heresy, for denying transubstantiation, and the propitiatory sacrifice of the mass, or in other words a *repetition* of the sufferings of Christ in an ordinance which Christ himself told us was only a *remembrance* of him.

After condemnation, he was induced to sign a recantation; but having nobly denied his error, and withdrawn that confession, he was condemned to the stake, at which he suffered on the 21st of March 1556.

To this he was brought without any official notice, though he had reason to expect it; and when tied to it was obliged to listen to all the charges and aspersions of Dr. Cole: but Cranmer boldly replied, "I believe every word and sentence taught by our Saviour Christ, his apostles, and the prophets of the Old and New Testament; but as to the pope, I refuse him as Christ's enemy, or Antichrist, with all his false doctrines." So great was his sorrow for his recantation, and so determined was his spirit at the last hour, that he calmly held his right hand in the flames till it dropt off, saying, "this hand has offended;" and this he was enabled to do, as his executioners had taken care to keep up a slow fire, in order that he should suffer the utmost pain of his punishment, as a proof of their regard for *Christian mercies*.

It has been stated, that after his whole body had been reduced to ashes, *his heart was found entire, and untouched by the fire, which by some of the bystanders was considered as an argument in favour of his hearty love of the truth; whilst others looked upon it as a proof of the heretical obduracy of that vital part, which would not yield even to the warm argument of a blazing Catholic fire!

Elton, near Whatton, has so little to be noticed, that we only mention it in order to add another instance to the many which prove how necessary it is, that precautions should always

* We do not wish to establish a new age of miracles; but merely give the passage from Bishop Godwin's work, "De Præsulibus, p. 203."

ways be taken with respect to fire arms; not a foolish fear which will often produce the evil it wishes to avoid, but a cool caution which shall point out the necessary guards against accident. Mr. Throsby records this curious circumstance, which took place here in 1784, when a blacksmith had purchased a piece of iron about two feet long, and an inch and a half in diameter, apparently solid, and which had been used as a pestle in a family, upwards of sixty years. The workman having some doubts, however, about its solidity, put it into his fire, when it exploded with great force; and a musquet ball from within it grazed his side, and lodged in some coals behind him. This led to further examination and enquiry when it was discovered to have been a gun barrel dug up in the year 1723, but so completely filled with earth and rust that no cavity had ever, till then, been noticed.

Granby lies two miles to the south of Elton, and on the borders of Lincolnshire, but is remarkable for nothing more than giving the title of marquis to the Rutland family, whose ancestor Sir John Manners, purchased it from Lord Viscount Savage, to whom it had been granted by Henry the seventh, after the attainder of Henry Lord Lovel, of whose unhappy and mysterious fate we shall take some notice under the head of Stoke near Newark.*

Wiverton, though possessing few remains of its ancient grandeur, is still interesting even in its present dilapidated and depopulated state. The *Hall* was built by the Chaworth family in the reign of Henry the sixth, and the house was sufficiently in the castellated style to be a garrison during the civil wars; since that period, however, it has suffered much; and even in Thoroton's time, little was left but the ancient gate house, of which he has given a plate. This is now almost in ruins, standing in the open fields near Tithby village, a solitary memorial of departed grandeur, of ancient hospitality, and of all the once happy delights of domestic sociability.

* Harl. Coll. 568.

LANGAR, was the seat of Earl Howe, and is now in the possession of his descendants in the female line. "Here was an ancient house now re-edified by Hen. Lo. Scroope, Lord and owner hereof, whose ancestor married one of the daughters of the Lo. Tiptoft; and the Rhodes were Lords hereof, immediately after the time of the Conquest."*

Thoroton says, "the whole lordships of Langar and Barniston are become the possession of Mr. Howe, who has made a convenient park of the closes which he hath found nigh the house, which is well stocked with deer, much better than the towns are with people, when so considerable parts of the fields are enclosed: the too common fate of good land in this country." Without combating Dr. Thoroton's deductions about inclosures, it is enough to mention that part of the old house, which he describes, still remains at the back of the new part of the edifice. It stands close by the church, and has a communication with it, and though now long deserted and of course possessing little of modern elegance in the interior, yet the antique portion may be considered as giving some insight into ancient manners. The modern front has a very handsome portico and pediment, with six lofty Ionic pillars the height of the house, which is three stories; and the gardens, though much neglected, might with little trouble be rendered extremely pleasing.

The church is dedicated to St. Andrew, and consists of a nave and two side aisles; it has also a tower of not very ancient workmanship, with a ring of five bells. It contains many monuments of the Lords Scroope, &c. particularly one very elegant one, ornamented in the richest sepulchral style, of Lord Scroope who died in the year 1609, with his lady.

The parsonage house is excellent of its kind; and has a very

* In the introductory part of the county, we have not noticed *Langar* and *Granby* as giving noble titles; but the reason of this is evident, as the object there was to notice only those which give the *superior* title, by which each possessor is known.

very good observatory erected in 1797 by Mr. Gregory the rector, who was very partial to astronomical pursuits.

We now proceed to *Newark Hundred*, and commence with the town of

NEWARK,

Of which old honest, but Drunken *Barnaby* sings:

"Thence to Newark, flood surrounded,
Where I hoping most, were drowned;
Hand to hand I straightways shored,
To a cellar richly stored;
Till suspected for a picklock,
The beadle led me to the whip stock."

Later tourists, however, have been more hospitably treated, and of course speak better of the accommodations.

Arthur Young says, it "is a very pretty and well built town; remark when you see it, particularly the steeple, which, for some miles around, appears very light and beautiful: there is likewise a new street worth viewing; although the houses are very small, yet each side of the street forms but one front, and is in a very pretty neat taste." Dibdin also in his musical tour seems, though a *vagrant melodist*, to have been on better terms with the parish beadles than poor *Barnaby*, and therefore says that it "is a clean, handsome, improving town, and seems to look more like the land of the living than any place in the county. The market place is very handsome and spacious. It is full of bustle, being on the great north road; and it boasts a vicinity full of spirit and importance." With respect to the *antiquity* of Newark, Throsby, as well as some other antiquaries, looks for "Ad Pontem" here; but Mr. Dickinson, as we shall presently have occasion to shew more at length, endeavours to fix that station at Southwell.*

That

* The county of Nottingham, and the kingdom at large, are under great obligations to Mr. Dickinson for his antiquarian researches and modern delineations; and we cannot omit a fact much to the credit of the candour and liberality of that gentleman, that he has dedicated his book, with just discrimination, to one who had been his political opponent on many occasions!

That Newark, however, was a Roman station is now beyond a doubt. Stukely, in his Itinerary, says that it was certainly raised from the neighbouring Roman cities, and has been walled about with their remains; and he adds, that the northern gate was composed of stones seemingly of a Roman cut; and not improbably the Romans themselves had a town hereabouts, for many antiquities are found about it, especially by the Fosse side which runs through the town. Horsley also is pretty much of the same opinion; for he says, in his observations on the sixth iter of Antoninus,* "The station Ad Pontem, is only seven itinerary miles from Margidunum, which distance is not quite sufficient to bring us from Bridgeford quite up to Newark—this therefore obliges us to look for Ad Pontem, two or three miles from the middle of Newark. I make no doubt but that this large town has arisen out of the ruins of Ad Pontem on one side, and Crocolana on the other. The name "*Newark*," which implies some prior building of greater antiquity, may perhaps refer to those Roman stations on each side of it."

Mr. Dickinson's recent observations are even more to the point. He says, that it requires little sagacity to discover that New-work, (the obvious signification of its present name, and that by which it has been distinguished in history, &c. ever since the reign of Edward the Confessor,) is a name of reference, of comparison, and of discrimination. If what was then erected was called the New-work, it is an incontrovertible admission that there was something older, on which the modern establishment was engrafted, but still that is enveloped in the obscurity of antiquity. He then notices, that Stukely with great acumen shews the probability, and almost certainty, that this was the Sidnaceaster of old, once a bishopric in the early days of Christianity, having had a succession of nine bishops. Though these walls and gates are now down, yet they have been shewn by Stukely and others to have been formed of Roman materials; and innumerable quantities of Roman coins, and other antiquities, have

 been

* Horsley's Britan. Rom. p. 439.

been found here. Stukely also thinks that the Roman name was Eltavona; and he adds that Mr. Baxter has placed it almost beyond contradiction, that the Roman name of the Trent was *Tavus*, or *Abus* as some have thought, and which we have alluded to in the early part of this county. That branch now called the Trent, and passing under the walls of the castle, Stukely also calls the river Davon or Tavon, asserting that it is not the Trent, but the united streams of the Davon and Snite. From these circumstances, Stukeley draws his conclusion of Sidnaceaster being the modern Newark; and he adds, that the Roman town being destroyed by the Scots and Picts after the departure of that people, it was refounded by the Saxons, who to the name of the river *Snite* on which it stands added the termination "Ceaster" to mark its having been a Roman station, thus forming *Sidnaceaster*. After this, Mr. Dickinson conceives it highly probable that the Danes may have destroyed the Saxon refounded city, and hence *New*-work was justly applied to it in the reign of Edward the confessor. Camden, indeed, carries its antiquity no higher than the time of Alexander, bishop of Lincoln, who built the present castle; but in this he confines himself solely to the building as it then stood.

To detail the history of Newark from its re-edification would be little more than a recapitulation of great part of the history of England; a few facts, however, deserve particular notice.

This place was the scene of king John's death; those who wish to enquire particularly into the fact of his being poisoned or not, may consult the fourth volume of the *Archæologia*, p. 28, where they will find a long letter of Mr. Pegge's upon that subject.

James the first arrived at Newark, on his way to London, on the 21st of April 1603, on which occasion he was received by the corporation, and addressed by the alderman, (there being then no mayor,) Mr. John Twentyman, in a long Latin speech, with which his Majesty was so well pleased, that he conferred upon

upon him the office of purveyor of wax to the royal household, in the counties of Notts, York, Lincoln, and Derby. When about to depart, James ordered him to repeat the speech, then asked his name; and on being told, replied sharply, "then by my saul man thou art a traytor; the Twentymans pulled down Redkirk in Scotland." This, however, must have been in jest; as he continued his favour to him, and was often accompanied by him in his hunting excursions on the forest.

In the unhappy reign of Charles the first, Clarendon says that Newark became a very necessary garrison in the county of Nottingham; and had not only subjected that little county, the town of Nottingham only excepted, which was upon the manner confined within its own walls, but had a great part of the county of Lincoln under contribution.*

Thoroton speaking of those times, of which we may almost consider him as an eye witness, says that Newark was one of the most considerable garrisons the king had, in which the loyalty and courage of the townsmen were ever remarkable, and sufficiently manifested in all their three sieges; at the first of which Sir John Henderson, the prudent governor, caused all Northgate and the Spital (an hospital of St. Leonard of Stoke) to be burned, "yet the remains formed a receptacle for the enemy at the second siege, where Prince Rupert took a goodly train of artillery which I saw,† together with their foot arms, when he so fortunately relieved the town then under the government of Sir Richard, now Lord Byron: but before the third, there was not one stone left unthrown down, and in or

* In the second vol. of Clarendon, page 95, are some stories of the unwillingness of people in this county to lend money to the king; but who, as he observes, might have finally saved both their money and estates. One in particular, he mentions, who was asked for a loan of 500l. and presented 100l. swearing he had never seen 500l. of his own money at one time in his life; yet a few weeks after the Parliamentarian army *borrowed* 5000l. which they found hid in his bedchamber.

† Clarendon says, 4000 prisoners, eleven brass cannon, two mortar pieces, and five barrels of powder.

near the place a strong fortification raised in Sir Richard Willis's time, (as I remember) and called the king's sconce, which, by his Majesty's special command then in the Scots quarters on the north side of the river Trent, was about the sixth of May 1646, with the town and castle and the rest of the fortresses, concluded by commissions of the Right Honourable John Lord Bellasis the last governor, to be surrendered the Saturday following, though it is said, that Mr. Smith, the valiant mayor, upon his lordship's communicating to him the king's order, urged the governor with tears, to trust God and sally, rather than think of yielding the town, which indeed at that time suffered more by the plague within than the enemy without."

The *Beacon Hill* was the scene of this action between Prince Rupert, and the Parliamentarian army under Sir John Meldrum; and a MSS. recorded by Mr. Dickinson, says "the prince advanced up the hill, at the descent whereof he espies four bodies of horse standing in readiness to receive him; and charging and routing these horse, drove them quite out of the field beyond their own work, foot and cannon, some into the island, and others to Muskham bridge, pursuing them with that expedition, that he besieged them in their own intrenchment at the Spittle with his horse, before his foot came within four miles."

During the second siege in 1644, an extraordinary circumstance is related to have taken place of one *Clay*, a tradesman of some eminence residing in the market square, who, as is recorded on his monument in the church, is said to have dreamed three successive times in one night, that his house was in flames. At the conclusion of the last dream he got up much confused, and caused his whole family to leave the house; very soon after which, a bombshell from Beacon hill fell on his habitation, and, passing through every floor, was set on fire.

Much gallantry was displayed during the third siege; and it has been particularly recorded, that on the first of January 1645, the Newarkers made a most determined sally upon Poynts's quarters

quarters at Stoke, and killed and took above 200 of his men; but the most effectual attack was on the first of April in the same year, when they killed and drowned several hundred of the enemy's choice troops, and took so many prisoners, that their numbers caused great sickness in the town. It has been asserted, that Newark might have sustained the siege many months longer; but, as has been before noticed, it was surrendered to the Scots army, by the king's order, on the 19th of May 1645-6. Mention about this time is made of a memorable gentleman volunteer, Mr. Gawen Rutherford, who well deserves to be held in everlasting remembrance for his loyalty; "for having twenty-nine children by one wife, he *trooped* under his twenty-seventh child, who was a commander for his Majesty at Newark."

Of the state of Newark at the close of the last siege, we may form a good idea from the MSS. already noticed as preserved by Mr. Dickenson, "the ladies and gentlemen did much desire the surrender to be speeded as much as could be, longing for their enlargement, which occasioned the surrender a day sooner than by the articles was agreed. And truly it is become a miserable, stinking, infected town. I pray God, they do not infect the counties and towns adjacent—they carried not much out of the town, for they had but very few carriages."

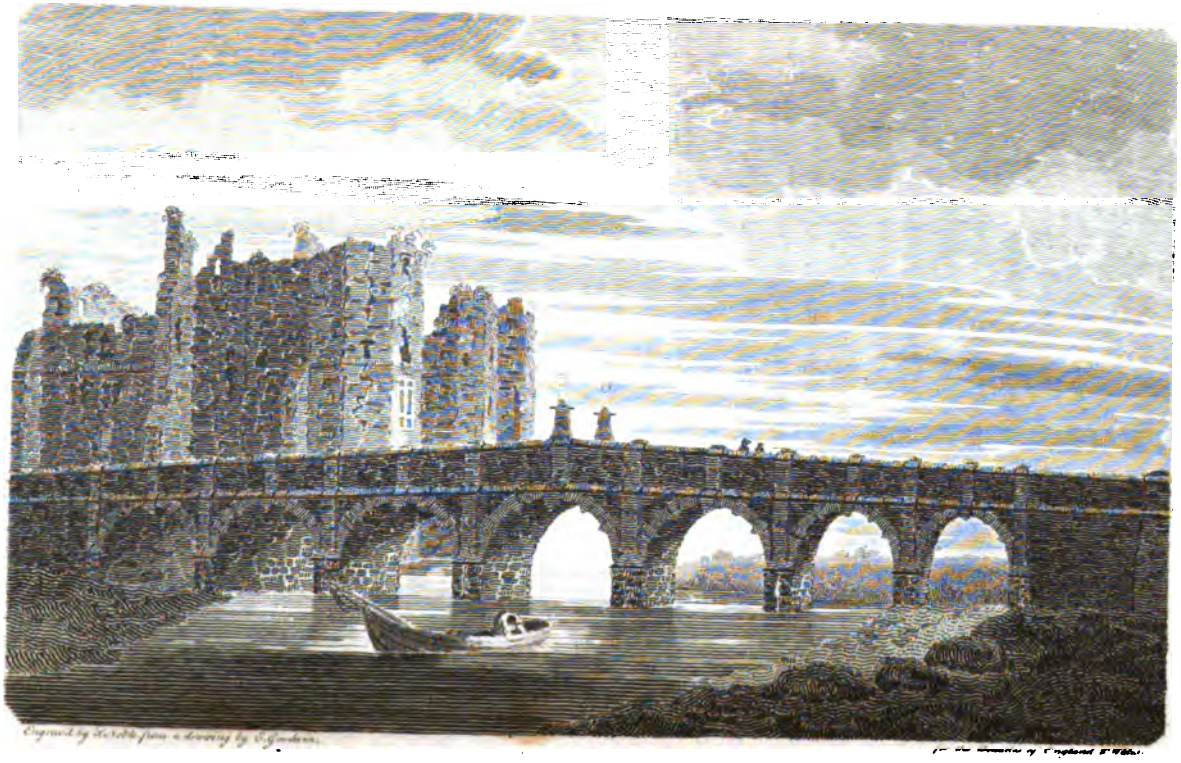
After the surrender, the country people were ordered to come with pick axes, shovels, &c. to demolish all the works and circumvallation; but one of the sconces has been left entire, and gives a good idea of the state of warfare at that time. It is extremely small, and consists of five bastions, being a pentagon, but these are so near to each other, that the curtines are scarcely half pistol shot in length, contrary to the usual scale which always allows two musquet shot between the retiring flanks of two bastions: and, being fortified on the fieldface as well as towards the town, shews that the assailants were not without their apprehensions that some attempt to raise the siege might cause an attack upon their own works.

Since the Revolution, little remains to be noticed, except a progressive improvement in trade, manufactures, and opulence; the leading points of which will be detailed under their respective heads in the description of the place.

The whole parish of Newark contains about 800 acres. Some changes with respect to its boundaries, however, must have taken place: for Mr. Dickenson tells us, that anciently the Trent passed near to the town about 350 yards distant from the castle, where the bed of the old river is very apparent, and is to this day called the "Old Trent." Where the main stream now runs by Kelham, there was a small brook which not being sufficient for the various purposes of the Sutton family, resident there, a cut was made from the Trent to the brook which gave a turn to the whole current, probably aided by the obstruction which the mills at Newark must be supposed to occasion: it there forced its way and formed that channel which is now seen. An island has thus been formed, which is remarkably fine feeding land for cattle; there is also under the upper stratum of gravel a bed of clay extremely useful for the making of bricks.

It is a curious fact, that although the number of inhabitants, and consequently the number of dwellings, are increased in a great proportion, even within the last two centuries, yet the ichnography of the town, according to Mr. Dickinson, appears to have undergone no alteration. Northgate, indeed, which now forms a part of the town, appears in former times to have been only a hamlet; for it is in many places called "Northgate juxta Newark."

The *Streets* of Newark are now kept in a very respectable condition: yet, according to the before mentioned authority, which we shall often have occasion to quote, this improvement is but of late date, although an act of Parliament for paving them was passed in the 27th of Queen Elizabeth. It was not, however, until the middle of James's reign, that even the paving of the market place was begun, and that only a causeway six feet



NEWARK CASTLE & BRIDGE.

Nottinghamshire.

broad from the west corner of the market place to the south porch of the church. At that time there was a cross in the centre of the market square, on which was cut the name of the undertaker of the work, and the date (H. W. 1619) for Henry Webster.

The CASTLE and its *precinct*, though within the borough of Newark, are in the parish of Stoke. It was built, or re-edified, in the reign of Stephen, by Alexander, bishop of Lincoln, and its *old* name of *New*-work still preserved.* Henry of Huntingdon, in speaking of this, acknowledges that this kind of military erections were even at that time deemed rather improper for an ecclesiastic to engage in; the pious bishop, therefore, built two monasteries as an expiation. But though he might flatter himself with thereby avoiding the pains and penalties of purgatory, it appears that Stephen was not so easily satisfied, but having seized both the bishop and his uncle, kept them in durance until they had surrendered to him all their fortresses. The governor of the castle refused to deliver it to the king's officers, without an order from the bishop in person; this, however, he waved, when he received notice from the bishop, that the king had made a vow that *he* should have neither meat nor drink until it was given up. In the days of John, and in the baronial wars, it several times changed hands. Whilst a royal garrison, the troops repeatedly sallied out, wasting the lands of the neighbouring rebellious barons; but the Dauphin of France, whom they had called in, in order to put a stop to the depredations, ordered Gilbert de Gaunt, whom he had lately created Earl of Lincoln, to proceed with a considerable force, either to reduce it, or to repel the soldiers of the garrison. He, however, having got intelligence of the king's approach with a powerful army, retreated to London: but John, having in his march over the *washes* lost a part of his army together with his carriages and military chest, who were all surprized and overwhelmed by a rapid flood tide, he retired to this castle; and, being

* Vide Grose's Antiquities.

being extremely sick and in violent anguish of mind, here ended his unfortunate reign in 1216, the 19th of October. Stowe adds, that immediately on his decease, his attendants, after taking all that was about him, fled; not leaving so much of any thing, worth the carriage, as would cover his dead carcase,

The governor, Robert de Gangi, seems now to have given it up to the barons, for Henry the third, on his accession, found it in their hands: but he having directed it to be restored to the bishop of Lincoln, De Gangi refused at first on pretence of money due to him; he was by force at length compelled to be content with the payment of 100*l.* In 1530, Cardinal Wolsey lodged here with a great retinue, in his way to Southwell, where he was accustomed to spend part of the summer. The remainder of its history may be considered as connected with that of the town, already recorded.

Though now in ruins, it still presents an august appearance, which would be even much more so, were it not that its remains are applied to the purposes of coal wharfs, stables, &c. The north front over looking the river* is the most perfect, having a large square tower at the north east angle, and another in the centre of the elevation. Between these great features, in the principal story, and among some large magnificent windows, is an excellent projecting window, forming a perfect specimen of those called *bays*, or *bowers*, in ancient times.

The general outline of the plan of the castle is square; its dimensions are very great; and the number of stories, by the appearance of the north front, seems at least to have been five. Within the exterior walls, nothing remains; and the plot has long been used as a bowling green. The vestiges of the great hall† shew evidently that *it* was built in later times, from the manner in which the roof appears to have been inserted into the walls; and in this hall, the before mentioned window seems to have

* Vide Pursuits of Architectural Innovations.

† Archæologia, Vol. VI. 321.

have been hanging over the river, and even of later construction, as it could not have been placed there, until all the ancient modes of defence had become out of use.

Under this hall, is a most curious arched vault or crypt, supported by a row of pillars in the middle, and having loops and embrasures towards the river in which were planted cannon in the civil wars. At the end of this vault, there are some remains of the entrance of a subterraneous passage, said to have gone a great way under ground. There are also some vestiges of a staircase from the vault up to the hall. Exclusive, however, of this hall and vault, what remains of the edifice seems most evidently to continue precisely as it was in the days of king Stephen; and exhibits a curious specimen of the odd mixture of old Norman architecture, and of these which bishop Gundulph first introduced at Rochester castle.

The Bridge, which crosses the river close by the castle, was originally of wood, but pulled down in 1775 being then quite ruinous; when Henry Duke of Newcastle caused one to be erected of brick, faced with stone. A better idea of its appearance may be formed from the accompanying plate than from any description.

The Church has long been considered as the first parish church in the kingdom. It is of the age of Henry the sixth, and Thoroton says "yet I suppose it better than all the ten mentioned in Domesday book, which I guess were not all in the town, though in the Soc." It is indeed a noble edifice, its exterior most superb; mullions and tracery of excellent designs fill the windows; in different parts of the building are niches with statues, and other decorations; and there is perhaps no ecclesiastical edifice which contains such a number of short ludicrous busts, forming spout heads, &c. except Magdalen college in Oxford. It is much to be lamented, indeed, that the buildings which surround it take off much from the effect which would otherwise be produced by a clear view of the edifice. The other church having been destroyed during the civil wars,

wars, this seems to have had the undivided attention of succeeding generations for its preservation and improvement. The tower is light and handsome, possesses much symmetry and beauty, and has a peal of eight bells; it is much ornamented with arch work and imagery, and supports a lofty stone spire adorned with the twelve apostles in niches, and which makes a very handsome show in approaching the town in all directions.

The inside of the church has much of a cathedral appearance; but the nave is narrow and gloomy. The pillars are light and beautiful; the choir is inclosed by a rich screen of wooden carved work, and has a spacious east aisle behind it. The aisles are lofty, and the pavement is covered with sepulchral memorials; besides which the numerous monuments and brasses are in good preservation. The new galleries too add much both to the beauty and convenience of the building.

The windows have formerly been filled with painted glass, some of which are still in good preservation, representing the various events of our Saviour's life; the history of the New Testament was formerly in the windows of the north aisle, and in the east window the history of Joseph. Besides these, here have been many armorial bearings of Deyncourt, Cromwell, Tateshall, Chaworth, Caltopt, Foljambe, Leek, Barry, &c.

Most of the important monumental inscriptions may be found in Thoroton; we shall, however, briefly notice a curious brass of an ecclesiastic, mentioned by Gough in his Sepulchral Monuments. It is on a large slab, at the entrance of the south transept,* and contains the figure under a rich canopy of three arches with double rows of saints round it. Over the saints, an angel sided by two naked figures; under the two uppermost saints kneel figures with labels. Angels at the side of his head hold censers or *litui*. He is in curled flowing hair, a long coat with pocket holes in front, and over it a kind of mantle lined with something like minever, his sleeves are buttoned to the wristbands,

* Sepulchral Monuments, Vol. I. p. 185.

wristbands, and from his conjoined hands falls a scroll inscribed "Miserere mei, domine Deus meus." He has pointed shoes, or half boots, with a buckle or opening in the instep. Between his feet is represented a lion hunting. The whole figure is much worn by trampling; but the tradition of the place is, that this is the grave of *Alan Flemyng*, the founder of the church, and of course the oldest one in it.

The communion plate is all of massy silver, the gifts and bequests of various individuals; yet it is surprising, that when a most daring attempt was made about seventy years ago to rob the church, the thieves did not touch the plate, but seemed intent only on securing the money belonging to the corporation which they supposed to be kept here in an iron chest.

Of other RELIGIOUS FOUNDATIONS here was an *Hospital*, dedicated to St. Leonard, founded by Alexander, bishop of Lincoln,* in the latter end of the reign of Henry the first, or beginning of that of Stephen, and confirmed by his successor Philip. Perhaps this is the one said to have consisted of a master, one chaplain, and three poor persons, with revenues amounting to 18*l.*

Here were also a house of *Austin friars*, and another of *Observant friars*; the friary seal was discovered some years ago, and its facsimile (a bust of the Madona and child) may be seen in the Gentleman's Magazine, Vol. 76, page 913.

An ancient hospital for sick persons, belonging to the knight's templars, was founded here before 1185: and at the further end of the Northgate street was a great house called the Spittle, burnt down, as already mentioned, in the civil wars.†

Here also were formerly a great house called the *Chantry Freeschool*, and a *Song School* at the north west corner of the church-yard for an organist and six choristers.

The present GRAMMAR SCHOOL was founded by Dr. Thomas Magnus in 1529; as appears by an inscription over the door.

The

* Tanner's Monasticon.

† Some have considered this as the Hospital of St. Leonard.

The Market Place is a handsome square; but traditionally said to be much smaller than it once was. It is related that in the civil wars, no less than ten thousand men have been drawn up in it. All this, however, must seem doubtful to any one who will examine the antiquity of the buildings which surround it, the scite of the church and townhall, of the inn, &c. when he will scarcely find room for its ever having been more extensive than at present. Some, indeed, consider the double row of buildings between the south side of the church and the market place, as an encroachment, and Mr. Dickinson is of the same opinion; yet let the houses on that side next the church be examined, and it will perhaps appear that they are of an older date than the middle of the seventeenth century.

The market on Wednesday is well supplied with butcher's meat, fish, poultry, and vegetables, &c.

The Townhall is a neat and even elegant building of stone, erected in 1805 by the corporation at an expense of 17000*l.* paid out of the funds of the testamentary estates left for the advantage of the town. It stands in the market place, has a narrow, but light and airy front, and possesses considerable depth. The basement is rustic; four handsome pillars support a pediment ornamented with the corporation arms. On the top is a statue of Justice, and the ballustrades give it a handsome finish. It is three stories high, and has seven windows in front. Here are held the concerts and assemblies, and also all the corporate meetings, &c.

The Fairs are six in the year; at which a considerable traffic is carried on in cattle of all kinds. The dates are, first on Friday before Careing Sunday, or Sunday before Easter; second May 14th, or day after, if Sunday; third Whitsun Tuesday; fourth Lammas, or Maudlin fair, on August the second, or if on Sunday the day after; fifth All Saints fair, 1st of November; sixth St. Andrew's, on the Monday before December the 11th.

The Editor of these sheets, when at Newark, *was a day after the*

the fair; but Mr. Dickinson, he finds, complains that great annoyance is given to travellers, and to the inhabitants themselves, in consequence of the mart for horses being held on the great London road at the southern extremity of the town; and that for cattle and sheep, on the spacious area which composes the entrance from the elegant bridge northward of it; whilst those filthiest of all animals, swine, are posted on the causeways near the fronts of the houses in the principal streets. Some melioration of these nuisances has, we believe, taken place since Mr. Dickinson wrote.

In 1800, an annual cheese market was established here, to be held on the Wednesday preceding the second of October.

The MANUFACTURES of Newark are extensive: at the south end of the town, a cotton mill has been erected of considerable size, from which a great number of poor derive a comfortable subsistence. When Sir F. M. Eden wrote his work on the poor, he states the cotton business to have been then the principal one here; and adds that a mill for making cotton thread for the hosiers gave employment to upwards of 300, chiefly women and children, earning from one to five shillings per week.

In North gate, there is a very large *Brewery*, where a great trade was carried on for many years with the northern parts of Europe, until such a heavy duty was imposed on the importation of British beer by the Russian government, as to amount almost to a prohibition. Since that event, it is pleasing to understand that the propietors have cultivated a trade at home with no less assiduity than success.

The WORKHOUSE is one of the best in the kingdom. It is sufficiently capacious and well aired; and the sexes very judiciously separated, on the two sides. Eden speaks of it * as being well supplied with vegetables from a good garden, and in all other respects, both within and without, exhibiting a degree

* Vide Sir Frederick Morton Eden's very valuable work on the State of the Poor.

gree of comfort and neatness seldom to be met with. He also alludes to a most liberal arrangement of a few apartments, rather neater than the rest, appointed for the reception of such persons as have been unfortunately precipitated from an easy station in life, to the humiliating condition of subsisting on a parochial allowance: and he adds that their situation receives every attention that humanity could dictate. This was published some few years ago; but, on recent enquiry, we find the same reputable conduct to be adhered to, and even improved on.

In 1794, when Sir F. Eden wrote, the industry of the paupers also was well attended to; some of the children were employed at the cotton mill; others permitted to engage in such work as suited them in different parts of the town; and the grown people allowed two-pence in the shilling out of their earnings. At that period the annual expense was upwards of 1300*l.*

The badge, as appointed by the act of William the third, is worn by the paupers; but on its having been laid aside some years ago, the paupers increased so much, that it was soon restored, and it was then found that several persons who had before made regular applications to the parish immediately declined asking for relief! The donations and charities are mostly under the direction of the corporation, and there has been of late years about 120*l.* per annum arising from these distributed amongst the poor in money, coals, corn, bread, &c. to which we must add the very liberal subscriptions in winter and in times of scarcity to relieve the distresses of those seasons. There are two hospitals, or almshouses, for the reception of 14 decayed tradesmen, and 10 widows; one of these was founded by alderman Willliam Philpott, who left ample possessions for its support.

But the *Labouring Poor* have perhaps done more for their own support, in this place, than in any other town in the kingdom, as they have no less than ten friendly societies, which even

even some years ago consisted of 800 members. Some of their regulations too are excellent: no relief is given if the cause of distress arises from quarrelling or from *vicious habits*; and any member spending, at one sitting, more than twopence in an alehouse, is expelled.* If these, or similar regulations, were to be well attended to, there would seldom be occasion for a TOWN GAOL: from the size of this one, indeed, we may imagine that it is but seldom wanted. When the benevolent Howard was here, it was merely a place with two rooms arched with brick, the largest up stairs, 12 feet by 11; but as the two windows looked towards the street, he complained that no guard could be put against the admission of spirituous liquors; nor was there either court, water, or sewer, for the convenience of the prisoners. Some melioration has, since that, taken place.

The POPULATION of Newark is estimated in 1795 by Sir Frederick M. Eden, at 7000, consisting, as he describes them, of tradesmen, inn-keepers, and a few gentlemen of independent fortune. If he was correct, it has increased very little in a course of 17 years; for by the census of last year (1811) it appears that there are only 3319 males, and 3917 females, making a total of 7236; and that these form 1595 families, inhabiting 1465 houses, with 12 houses building, and 18 uninhabited. It may seem strange to see *innkeepers* specified as making a distinct branch of the population; but it must be recollected that Newark is a principal station on the great north road.† The

* Yet in 1795 there were 49 alehouses in Newark; we believe the number is not diminished.

† The north road running through this town being a cause of great influx of strangers, it has long been a matter of interest with the inhabitants to render it commodious. That part of it, across the vale of Trent, (in length about three miles) being subject to inundations of the river, and often from that circumstance having been impassable, the inhabitants at length came to the public spirited resolution of making a turnpike road, so high and substantial as to be passed with safety in the greatest floods. Under the road in many

inns also are of great antiquity, and it is singular that the *Saracen's head* has existed as an inn ever since the days of Edward the third; this is proved by a series of conveyances and deeds: and the antiquity of another, almost contiguous, is ascertained by the deed of Adam Creymers de Newark and Amicia his wife, who gave to their son Walter all that house known "by the name of the *White Hart*, in the market stede, and passing backward to the street called Carter Gate," temp. Hen. 4. The antiquity of the *Swan and Salmon* also, near to the castle, is ascertained as far back as Henry the eighth.

Here are Subscription *Dance* and *Card* assemblies held at the Town hall: the ASSEMBLY ROOM is handsomely finished with Corinthian pilasters, and a rich coved ceiling. At one end of this, the sessions are occasionally held; and at the other the corporation meet to transact public business. Upon the whole, the state of social manners in Newark is agreeable: how much of it is owing to the remembrance of an early example, we shall leave to the *Benedicts* to determine; but there is a little anecdote told of queen Henrietta Maria who came here in the civil wars, for the support of the royal cause, with an army under the command of Colonel Jermyn. Here she remained a few days, and treated the ladies of the place and neighbourhood in such a courteous and agreeable manner, that they pressed her much to stay with them, until the troops were in possession of Nottingham. Her Majesty replied, that she was under the command of the king, and was about to march by his order to another place; but although she could not comply with their request, she, by *her* obedience, would set *them* an example to obey their husbands. It is not recorded that she had absolutely any reason to think such an example necessary; yet we think it possible that there may be towns in the

many places are arches neatly built of brick, intended to carry off the water without overflowing the road; there is a bridge also near the town constructed for the same purpose, upon land mostly dry, consisting of nine lofty arches

the kingdom in which some of the gentlemen would be happy if her Majesty had paid them a visit also.*

Here is an AGRICULTURAL MEETING which has been attended with much benefit to the neighbouring counties.

The PARLIAMENTARY AND MUNICIPAL HISTORY of this town present some scenes of an *agreement to disagree*, which are by no means conducive to the comfort of the place. Real property is much diffused in the town, in consequence of which it has always possessed great weight in county elections. The number of freeholders is of late much increased from the division and sale of property, but the duke of Newcastle, lord Middleton, and Sir J. W. Gordon, Bart. are the greatest individual proprietors in the parish. In consequence too of such large sums of public money being at the disposal of the trustees for the various bequests, there have been of late years the most violent contests for the office of church warden; the partizans have been distinguished by red and blue; and it is whispered that instances have taken place of three guineas being paid for a vote.

No great differences, however, have taken place on religious points, for there are not more than a fourth or fifth of the inhabitants who dissent from the establishment. These are either Calvinists, or Methodists; and each have a place of worship.

Oldfield, in his "History of Boroughs," tells us that a contest had existed here above a century, between those who *were taxed*, and those who *were not taxed*, but who were of sufficient ability to be charged scot and lot! These latter, however, had their *hard case* taken into consideration; and in 1699 the House of Commons came to a resolution, that all who paid, or *ought to pay*, had a right to vote at elections: yet in a resolution, in 1791, the words "ought to pay" were omitted; but we have not heard of any complaints of late years, of *being exempt from taxes!* The families of Newcastle and Rutland may be

 supposed

* Mr. Harrod, a modern topographer, gives this story an earlier origin; and carries it back to the time of Henry the third.

supposed to have some influence here, the one, from property in the town; the other, from landed property in the vicinity. An opposition, however, has long existed, at the head of which of late years has been Mr. Dickinson Rastall, the antiquary and topographer, whose liberal character and conduct, we have been given to understand, have prevented an overflow of party spirit on more occasions than one, and to whom therefore, though personally unknown to us, we are happy to pay an humble tribute of just praise.

Newark is the last borough in England which received a chartered right of representation, so late as the 29th of Charles the second. The electors consist of the mayor, 12 aldermen, 12 assistants, and about 735 others.*

As far back as 1532, a donation was bequeathed by Robert Brown, to be applied "whether in the reparation of the church, or any good works to be done in the town;" there are also several others, and the whole are now regulated by an order of chancery. The trustees have done much for the town, from their increase, in repairing the church, paying the streets, building the town hall, and supporting the poor; all without parish rates, and sanctioned by an act in 1773. The estates principally lie in Everton parish; and, instead of being a job, are now let to the best bidders, and, if we are correctly informed, amount in the whole to near 3000*l.* per annum.

The VICINITY of Newark in its immediate outskirts has been much cut up by military works in the civil wars, many traces of which remain; and the stranger will not neglect to visit the BEACON HILL, where there are some very extensive quarries of *gypsum*, once extolled as a manure, but said by Mr. Lowe, in his "Agricultural Survey," to have been attended with "*bad success*," in this neighbourhood.

In

* The visitation of Sir Richard St. George, Norroy king at arms, in 1614, now in the Harl. Col. 1400, contains many particulars respecting the corporation. The corporate arms, given by Elizabeth, are considered by Mr. Dickinson, as illustrative of the families then possessing influence in the place.

In the BIOGRAPHY of Newark, we must not forget *Thomas Magnus*, who, by an old tradition recorded by Fuller, is said to have been found in the church porch, and therefore called by the people, "Thomas among Us:" but it appears to be otherwise from his deed of settlement, (when Archdeacon of the east Riding of Yorkshire, and Warden of Sibthorpe College,) in which he mentions several of his family. "It soundeth much in his praise," says Fuller, "that he forgot not his gratitude to the town of his nativity, where he erected a fair school with other benefactions. He flourished, as I take it, under Henry the eighth."

John Lightfoot, D.D. chancellor of Cambridge, and well known, by his Hebrew and Rabbinical learning, was born here in 1602; but his life is not sufficiently interesting to require further notice.

At CODDINGTON, on the *Sleaford* road, is a handsome seat of S. C. Colclough, Esq. but this neighbourhood is most remarkable for BROUGH, which Stukely calls the undoubted *Crocolana* of the Romans, lying three miles north of Newark. He derives this name from the quantities of wild saffron, (*Krokos*, in the Greek, and British *Llan*, an enclosure,) but this is fanciful, as well as Baxter's idea of *Grug*, a heath. All traces, however, of the city are gone, except the straightness of the roads and bye lanes, with repeated discoveries of coins, much rusty iron, and iron ore, which is thought by Stukeley to prove the existence of antient forges here. He adds "the old landlady at the little alehouse, which is the only house there, till Tom Cope's and another were lately built, (1724), says that where her fire place is the cross once stood, and that the whole is fairy ground, and very lucky to live on."

BARNBY IN THE WILLOWS, is a small place on the borders, with a small church; and BALDERTON about two miles from Newark, where there is a handsome seat of Joseph Sykes, Esq. though a large village on the great north road, is only remarkable for a most curious Saxon porch to the church, richly

wrought with zig zag mouldings and oxes heads;* and for a curious epitaph on Anne Lake in 1660 which says that

"——————— she was sent
In virgin coyne to pay dame nature's rent,"

and concludes with asserting what some may be disposed to allow, that

"The next to the *martyr's*, is the *virgin's* place!"

HAWTON, a small village, south of Newark, with its church surrounded by trees, presents a very picturesque appearance; but unfortunately most of the ancient monumental figures described by Thoroton, principally of the Molyneux family, together with the armorial glass, are now in a state of dilapidated mutilation and destructive fracture. The stalls in the chancel are rich in decorations of carving; but some of the designs are too grossly indelicate for preservation.

STAUNTON lies about seven miles S. S. E. of Newark, and the same distance to the north east of Bingham; and is situated in the vale of Belvoir, at the extremity of the county, adjoining Lincolnshire and Leicestershire, about two miles from Long Bennington, through which the north road passes, and is 120 miles from London.

The lordship of *Staunton* contains 1300 acres of land, and was inclosed in the year 1760. The soil is clay, which produces good wheat and beans, and excellent grazing ground: there is a quarry of exceeding good stone in the parish, having three strata; the first is thin and shivery; only fit for the top dressing of roads; the second is a hard blue stone, proper for building and burning into lime, which is equal in quality to the Barrow lime in Leicestershire, being impervious to water; and the third stratum is a large flooring stone, used by the inhabitants in laying the floors of their dwellings; it has also been known to polish for chimney pieces. As the lime is so very similar in quality to the Barrow lime, it is supposed that the

* Of this a plate may be seen in the Gent.'s Mag. vol. 76. p. 913.

NORTH FRONT OF STAUNTON HALL

the same strata of stone run from Barrow through Staunton to Beacon hill near Newark.

Staunton belonged to two maiden ladies, Anne and Emma, the only surviving daughters of Job Staunton Charlton, Esq. who served in Parliament for the borough of Newark for many years. He was the last male heir of this most ancient family, and died in January 1777. His father was Gilbert Charlton, second son of Sir Job Charlton, of Ludford in the county of Hereford, baronet; and his mother Anne, the eldest daughter of Harvey Staunton, Esq. whose ancestors have been in possession of this place, from the time of the Saxons in 1066. This union transferred the Staunton estate to the Charltons, and upon the death of Anne, the eldest and last surviving daughter of the above named Job Staunton Charlton, (who died in 1807,) she left her estates at Staunton and in Yorkshire to her second cousin Elisabeth, the daughter of Job Brough, Esq. of Newark, and the wife of the Rev. John Ashpinshaw, LL. D. and directed by her last will and testament, that they and their issue should take the name and bear the arms of Staunton only, which was confirmed by the king's sign manual June 20th, 1807, and registered in the College of Arms.

The mansion, of which a plate is here annexed, is a handsome and noble structure, with many very excellent rooms therein of large dimensions, and the gardens and pleasure grounds are very beautiful and extensive, from whence there is a delightful view of Belvoir Castle, the seat of his grace the Duke of Rutland. Sir Mauger Staunton defended this castle against William the first, duke of Normandy, generally styled William the conqueror, and there made his composition and contract for his lands, and had the strongest fortress therein, ever since called by his name "Staunton's Tower."

The church is a handsome structure, with a tower, containing four bells, and is dedicated to St. Mary. In the church are many monuments of the Stauntons, of great antiquity.

The Rev. Dr. Staunton, the present possessor, has made

great improvements in planting and ornamenting the place. The tower of the church and the woods about the mansion may be seen from the north road between long Bennington and Newark.*

SIBTHORPE had once a large mansion of the Burnells, but nothing now remains except a dove cote. In the church are some ancient tombs of the Burnell family; on one of which, Mr. Throsby in a fit of critical accuracy corrects a mistake of Thoroton, by substituting 1589 for 1590. Tanner tells us that here was a College founded by Geffrey le Scroop, in the reign of Edward the second, the whole of which afterwards came to the Whalleys.

FLINTHAM has a handsome *Hall*, the seat of colonel Thoroton, a descendant of Dr. Thoroton the topographer. It is a handsome modern building on the road from Bingham to Newark, and erected on an ancient mansion of the Husseys since the time of Edward the third. The church contains an ancient cross legged figure of the 14th century, described by Gough,† and vulgarly called "Old Butler;" but the legs are nearly gone, and it is shamefully mutilated. A former incumbent of this parish was an odd character, and saved upwards of 1500*l.* by a most beggarly and penurious mode of life; he has been known

* A fuller account of Staunton, and the Staunton family may be seen in Thoroton's Antiquities of Nottinghamshire, p. 156, (where there is a curious rhyming pedigree done by one Robert Cade, with all the epitaphs and also all the buildings, births, marriages, &c.) also in that very excellent and voluminous work, Nicolls's History of Leicestershire, Vol. II. pages 26, 27, 84, under the head "Belvoir."

The arms of Staunton are, argent, two chevronels sable. Crest, a fox passant proper.

The present arms are argent, two chevronels sable; and (for distinction) on a canton azure, a quatrefoil or, crest, a fox passant proper, charged, for distinction, with a quatrefoil.

The Stauntons, baronets, of Ireland (of whom, Sir George Staunton, the companion of Lord Macartney in his embassy, was the first baronet) are said to be a younger branch of the family.

† Sepulchral Monuments.

known to serve the thatchers to get a penny, and once went to Newark with a letter for the sum of twopence!

Elvaston or Elston has an ancient mansion, the residence of Robert Waring Darwin, Esq. The village is large, and has an hospital for four widows founded by Anne Darwin in 1744. The neat church, dedicated to All Saints, contains many monuments of the Darwin family, originally of Lincolnshire.

The late admired Dr. Darwin, was a native of this place and youngest son of Robert Darwin, Esq. a barrister. After receiving the rudiments of education at a country school, he went to St. John's college, Cambridge, where he proceeded M. B. in 1755, and his first poetic effusions were in the University collection of odes and elegies on the death of the late prince of Wales. These, however, are considered as not conferring any distinction on the author; nor did they even give any promises of his future excellence. Having received his degree of M.D. he found the capital overstocked, and therefore selected Litchfield for his professional labours, where he resided many years.

He wrote several medical treatises, and in 1789 brought out his "Botanical Garden;" after which, impressed with a thorough conviction of the advantages resulting from system, he reduced *Medicine* to the Linnean mode of arrangement in his "Zoonomia, or Laws of Organic Life." He afterwards settled at Derby, and his whole life was distinguished by a regard to the cause of science, and of humanity.

In the Philosophical Transactions,* there is a curious paper by Dr. Stukeley, describing a stone found in the grounds at the rectory here, with a skeleton impressed in it, of a most enormous size, and which is supposed to have belonged to a crocodile, or porpoise. The stone was supposed to have been brought from the neighbouring quarries of Fulbeck, through the whole of which range of hills there are immense strata of stone abounding in shells and other submarine substances.

Stoke

* Vol. XXX. p. 96.

STOKE BY NEWARK is a very pleasant village, most retiredly situated on the banks of the Trent, though the post road goes through part of it. It lies upon the fosse, and may have been a Roman station; it had also a very ancient hospital * dedicated to St. Leonard, for a master, chaplains, brethren, and sick persons.

Near the church, is a pleasing little mansion, the residence of Sir George Smith Bromley, Bart. in the arrangement of which taste and comfort seem to have gone hand in hand. The grounds, though on a small scale, are pleasing, and have an extensive prospect over the vale of Trent below, and also of the *Church*, a respectable edifice standing on a rising ground in front, and dedicated to St. Oswald. The chancel is ancient, and the whole is kept in excellent order, so as to do away the complaint made by Mr. Throsby twenty years ago: here is a monument to the memory of the father of the present baronet.

Stokefield, as it is called, was the scene of the battle between Henry the seventh, and the army under the earl of Lincoln who had espoused the cause of the impostor Lambeth Simnel, the pretended earl of Warwick, and claimant of the crown. This took place in 1487, but Hall, Stow, and Hollinshed, all differ with respect to the day, calling it the 6th, 16th, and 20th, of June. Dering according to tradition says, that Henry's head quarters were in Elston fields, and that the battle was fought close to them, the earl of Lincoln having quartered at Newark; but Rapin copying from the chronicles, says, that the king marched so as to prevent the earl from reaching Newark, and encamped between that town and the enemy, whilst the earl, advancing to Stoke, encamped on the side of a hill, a position which we shall presently shew to be correct. The next day, the king having formed his army into three lines,† resolving that the van only should engage, and having advanced into the plain to offer battle, the earl left his strong position,

* Tanner's Monasticon.

† Vide Bacon's History of Henry the seventh.

sition, the battle commenced, and after three hours' hard fighting, in which the insurgents did wonders, Irish under the earl of Kildare, Germans under Martin Swart, as well as the few English, the whole rebel line was broken, and all the chieftains slain. A flight now took place in which the greatest part of the fugitives were slain, having taken a route to the river, in hopes of fording it, by a deep ravine (leading to Fiskerton Ferry) which, the tradition of that neighbourhood says, run with blood. This ravine is extremely deep and steep, but now filled up with young plantations; it is parallel to the modern road, and opens on the plain at the back of the ferry house, where the river is easily fordable for horses, and might even be passed by armed men, if there was a necessity. Bacon, in his history, complains that "the relations that are left unto us are so naked, and negligent, (though it be an action of so recent memory,) as they rather declare the success of the day, than the manner of the fight;" it is evident, however, from a careful view of the ground, compared with the different accounts, and by an eye not unaccustomed to such scenes, that the battle must have been fought in the plain between Stoke and Thorpe, rather than between Stoke and Elston. The total slaughter of both armies amounted to 7000 men;* and though the lord Lovel, one of the insurgents, is stated by cotemporary historians to have swam into the Trent on horseback, "but could not recover the further side by reason of the steepnesse of the bank and so was drowned;" yet Bacon adds "but another report leaves him not there, but that he lived long after in a cave or vault." Now it is a curious fact that Bacon should have heard such a report, particularly when we advert to Gough's additions to Camden, where it is said that the house of Minster Lovel in Oxfordshire which belonged to Lord Lovel, being not many years ago pulled down, *in a vault* was found the body of a man, in very rich cloaths, seated in a chair, with a table and mass

* Bacon says 4000 of the insurgents and all the officers, together with one half of the king's vanguard, but none of note.

mass book before him. The body was entire when found by the workmen, but upon admission of the air, soon fell into dust. From this, Mr. Gough concludes that having retired to his own house, he had trusted himself to some servant, and afterwards been neglected through treachery, fear, or accident, befalling the servant. Under all these circumstances, however, it is extraordinary how the report could have arisen in Bacon's time, so long before this last mentioned discovery.

It is extremely probable, from the coincidence of name and other circumstances, that this event formed the ground work of Miss Clara Reeve's elegant romance of the "Old English Baron."

On the high road from Newark to Worksop, is KELHAM HOUSE, the seat of John Manners Sutton, Esq. This *hall*, or *house*, is a plain but elegant building of brick with stone corners and window frames, of three stories in height, standing in a handsome lawn on the banks of the Trent. It consists of a large centre and two wings; the lawn and grounds, though not very extensive, are yet extremely pleasing and kept in good order; and the view of Newark, across the river, forms a fine prospect from the house. It had for some time been unoccupied, but is again inhabited by the family. Close to the grounds there is a very curious wooden bridge over the Trent, which, however, does not seem exactly to justify Mr. Throsby's observation of its being "apparently the most complex man ever formed." The village is small, but comfortable; and the church, dedicated to St. Winifred, has a very handsome tower, and also a richly wrought monument of the last lord Lexington and his lady, of fine statuary marble, but the figures strangely placed *back to back*. He holds a coronet in one hand, and a book in the other which rests upon a scull, whilst the lady has a ring, the emblem of matrimonial happiness in this world, and eternal duration in the next. The inscription states the family of Sutton to have flourished here from time immemorial, and their claim to the title to be as old as 1251, at which time Rowland

land Sutton married Alice, sister and coheir to Robert lord Lexington.

AVERHAM, or ARAM, was another seat of the family, but now dismantled and disparked. The *church* has some curious allegorical memorials of South and Tou, &c. with many monuments, particularly of the first lord, who, as Thoroton says, "very much increased his patrimony, ever kept a plentiful sober house, and was much out of purse for Charles the first, who created him a Peer." He is described as a loyal subject, a lover of his country, a good husband, father, friend, landlord, master, and neighbour. On a monument of Sir William Sutton, there are recorded

> "Eight of each sex; of each an equal part,
> Ushered to heaven their father, and the other
> Remained behind him to attend their mother."

At BEESTHORPE, in this neighbourhood, there is a good seat belonging to Thomas Bristow, Esq. and there was a Charity School, supported by a small endowment, and voluntary contributions; but it is now no more. The hall is a spacious mansion, quite in the old style of James's reign, with pointed roofs, an ancient hall, a tower, and some very extensive offices. There were several other ancient seats here, good specimens of old times, Deanshall, Earlston, &c. but these have been all pulled down.

NORTH and SOUTH MUSKHAMS on the great north road now form one village of upwards of a mile and half in length. The church is dedicated to St. Wilfrid, is situated in the centre of the village, and has a respectable Gothic appearance being as old as the 14th century at least: here are some old monuments.

In SOUTH MUSKHAM is the GRANGE, a very pleasing residence, the seat of William Dickenson Rastall, Esq. who has distinguished himself as a topographer of some of the most interesting parts of his native county. Part of the house was built

built about the close of the seventeenth century, the other part is more recent, and having two neat wings in the modern style the whole is now a neat and convenient abode, with good pleasure grounds, &c.

In North Muskham is *Muskham House*, a superb modern edifice, built in 1793, the residence of Joseph Pocklington, Esq. It stands on the east side of the north road, and consists of a centre of very fine elevation, and two wings; with offices on a very extensive scale.

A singular character died at this village in 1805; his name *Wass*. About thirty years before his decease, he made a vow never to step out of his house on any account; and notwithstanding the entreaties of his friends scrupulously adhered to it until his death.

Winthorpe Hall, the seat of R. Pocklington, Esq. is also in this neighbourhood, and is an elegant building of two stories on a rustic basement. The plantations and grounds are very extensive; and on a gentle rise which commands charming prospects, particularly over the vale of Belvoir, there is an octagonal temple with a table made out of part of the wrecks of the Spanish floating batteries destroyed at the memorable attack on Gibraltar.

Holme, a village three miles from Newark, and in this vicinity, is highly deserving the notice of the antiquary, on account of its *Church*. This village, in the seventeenth century, belonged to Sir Thomas Barton, knight; whose fortune having been acquired by the woollen manufacture, he was not ashamed to confess it, but placed the following distich in the windows of his mansion,

> "I thank God, and ever shall;
> It was the sheep, that paid for all."

The church, or rather chapel, has some monuments of the family in the chancel. On the north side stands a very large and curious altar tomb with two recumbent figures of a man

and woman, and below a very striking figure of an emaciated youth in the last stage of a decline.

Over the south porch is a chamber called "Nan Scott's." It is said, by tradition, that the last great plague was particularly fatal to this village; at which time this Anne Scott retired to the room here mentioned, with a sufficient quantity of food to last her several weeks. Having remained unnoticed until her provisions were expended, she ventured to return to the village, which she found entirely deserted, only one person, besides herself, of its former inhabitants, being alive. Shocked by the horrors of the scene, she is said to have returned to this chamber, where she took up her residence again for the remainder of a long life.

CROMWELL stands on the great north road, a little beyond Muskham. The village is but small, but is remarkable for a handsome parsonage which owes much to the late incumbent, the Rev. Dr. Rastall. It was "ancientley the seate of Crumwell which was raised in Sir Raufe Crumwell to Lord Cromewell of Tattershall in Lincolnshire, and Lord Treasurer of England in the time of Henry the sixth, and died sans issue."*

CARLTON UPON TRENT is a pleasant village on the same great road, with a very handsome and commodious inn. The mansion house was built about the middle of the last century, and was long the residence of Sir William Earle Welby, Bart. The small chapel is curious; and the tourist cannot fail to observe a small house by the road side with a large horse-shoe in brickwork at the end of it. It seems whimsical; but the editor of these sheets could not procure any information respecting it.

The Collegiate Church, and town of

SOUTHWELL,

lie to the west of Newark, on the opposite side of the river. It is seated on a gentle eminence, embosomed in trees, and in the centre

* Harl. Col. 568.

centre of an amphitheatre of swelling hills, on a fertile soil, well wooded, and their bases washed by the little river *Greet*, so much celebrated for its red trout. This town is very much reduced in size of late years; and we have been informed that the foundations of a whole street have been at times discovered running in an east and west direction, in a part of the immediate vicinity where now there are no other traces of inhabitants; but the hamlets of East and West Thorpe, which are contiguous to it, appearing to form part of it, and going under the same name, the tourist will generally consider it as a pretty large, but much scattered country town, without referring to these local distinctions. It is properly divided into two parts; the *Burgage* or "Burridge," and the *Prebendage*: the former of which comprehends all that space between the market place and the river Greet, whilst in the other is the Collegiate Church and its property.

That this was a Roman station, there can be no doubt; though antiquaries have quarrelled about its name. On the Burridge hill are the remains of a Roman fosse, evidently the *Burgus*, or camp; and many old Roman bricks have been found in the ruins of the prebendal houses and the late discovery of the foundation of the Roman bridge in the Trent, near to Winthorpe, from which to Southwell the road has been traced by Mr. Dickinson, has tended very much, in that gentleman's opinion, to confirm the belief that *Southwell* was the true AD PONTEM of the Romans. Horsley indeed, in his Britannia Romana, whilst commenting on the sixth Iter, thinks that if the distance of Ad Pontem from Margidunum is set off from the station near East Bridgeford, it will bring us to Farndon over against Southwell; but he adds, that though Newark has by some been supposed to be the place which Bede calls "Tiovulfingaceaster," yet that termination seeming to imply a Roman station somewhere in its neighbourhood, (which he did not believe Newark to have been,) might apply to Southwell "an ancient place, but on the wrong side of the river." He still, however,

however, considers Ad Pontem as having been in this neighbourhood; and even this admission is considered by Mr. Dickinson as in favour of his opinion. The Saxon name of Tiovulfingaceaster is said by this latter gentleman to mean, (when analysed) "the place where much industry was employed in laying hands on the multitude;" Tiolæ signifying *industry* in Saxon, Vulgus being the Latin for *multitude*, Fengar, Saxon, *to lay hands on*, and Ceaster, the Saxon for castrum, alluding to the baptismal ceremony performed by Paulinus first archbishop of York, in which the crowd were dipped in the Trent as soon as they were converted. The modern appellation is said by Dugdale, to have arisen from a spring or well to the southward of the church.

Leland in his Itinerary, in the reign of Henry the eighth says, "Southwell town is metely well builded, but there is no market public. The minster of our lady is large but of no pleasant building, but rather strong." Its appearance, however, at the present day is such as even Leland might have admired, (though more a man of industry than of taste,) as much has of late years been done to give it a thorough repair. For this purpose a contribution has been set on foot, as far back as 1804, the whole of this venerable pile having been long in a state of almost absolute ruin.*

At present its extreme length is 306 feet; its breadth 59; and the length of the cross aisle from north to south is 121 feet. All historians have agreed in attributing its first foundation to Paulinus, archbishop of York, who was sent by Pope Gregory, by the advice of St. Augustine, in order to establish Christianity in this island. This was in 627, on the Easter day in which year, he baptized Edwin the Great, king of Northumberland, with his whole court at York; in which conversion, however,

* Towards accomplishing this praiseworthy design, Col. Eyre set a munificent example by subscribing 100l.; many others have come forward handsomely; and the dean and chapter having contributed largely, every exertion is now making to complete the design.

the saint seems to have been much assisted by the queen Ethelburga, daughter of Ebauld king of Kent, who had been already converted.

During a succession of ages, until the dissolution, this church had been encouraged and endowed by the liberality of both monarchs and nobles, and protected by the decrees of popes, and the regulations of various prelates; and it is said by Mr. Rastall, that scarce a person was advanced to the see of York that did not render it more independent on his promotion, whilst its own members always manifested their attention by some augmentation of its revenues, whenever they had been long in the enjoyment of their benefices. In the early part of Henry's reign, its charities were dissolved, and that order of its priests expelled; and soon after, it shared in the general wreck of collegiate foundations. It was, notwithstanding, declared by act of Parliament in Henry's 34th year (1542) to be the mother church of Nottinghamshire; a favour which it owed, partly to Cranmer, and partly to the intercessions of the gentry of the county. In Edward's reign the chapter was dissolved and granted to the Duke of Northumberland, but restored by Mary to the archbishop and chapter, in whose hands the property still remains, and queen Elizabeth, in her 27th year, ordained a new code of laws, which, with some occasional decrees of different archbishops, form its present municipal law.

It suffered much in the civil wars, being sequestrated, but afterwards restored; but it has not even yet recovered the damages done by Cromwell's troops, who converted it into a stable for their horses, broke down the monuments, and ransacked the graves of the dead for lead and other valuables. Even as late as 1793, some of the iron rings, driven into the walls to fasten the horses to, were still in existence. It was also damaged considerably by being set on fire by lightning on the 5th of Nov. 1711.

Generally speaking, this great mass of building has sustained little alteration, except in some of the windows, whose Saxon arches

arches have given place to the Gothic pointed ones of the 14th century. Indeed there is still a tradition that the most ancient part of it, which is pure Saxon, was built in the short reign of the usurper Harold; and the pillars in this part of it are large, plain, and singularly massive. The capitals too are sparingly decorated, the arches simple, singular, and heavy, and the roof of timber. All of which Mr. Rastall seems to consider as in favour of the tradition.* Upon the whole, there is no doubt that, with the exception of St. Augustine's at Canterbury, founded in 605, this is the oldest building now in existence in this kingdom.

In approaching this venerable edifice on the north side, the visitor will notice a Gothic gateway with reducing parapets; at this spot, in point of scenery, the gateway occupying the foreground, and the Chapter House and north side of the church seen through it in perspective, have a very picturesque effect. In the western wall, a Saxon gateway seems coeval with the earlier part of the building. A recent architectural critic† observes, that the parts of *this* gateway are plain jambs and an abacus, supporting a semicircular arch with two facies by way of architrave; above the head of the arch has been fixed, probably in the 14th century, a recess with an Ogee head, but the statue is gone. Through the gateway, the tourist will have a direct view of the west front, with the Chapter House on the left, and some round monastic buildings on the right; the whole giving an heartfelt impression by its appearance, at once striking from its grandeur, and venerable from the recollection that it has lasted more than a thousand years.

This west front consists of two lofty square towers, divided into seven stories, and decorated with ornamented windows, and arched recesses; whilst between the towers are the western entrance and the great window. These, however, are insertions of a later date than the original edifice, having pointed heads

* William Dickinson Rastall, Esq. published some works under the name of Dickinson only; and others since he inherited the name of Rastall.

† Vide Pursuits of Architectural Innovation, in the Gents. Mag.

and much tracery; and even the battlements are a departure from the original Saxon design.

The north side is most strictly Saxon; having five stories, with breaks or pilasters between the windows; and even the upper row of windows are circular: the elevation terminates with a plain parapet, and the porch assimilates to the grand design.

On entering at the western door, the visitor is much struck with the extreme similarity of the interior to Rochester Cathedral; but he soon leaves the plainness of Saxon architecture, for all the richness and elegance of the meridian pride of Gothic architecture of the 14th century, displayed in the *Screen* at the entrance of the choir. This has, in different parts, large arched openings with recesses, the arches bordered by pediment finishing with entablatures; and the whole made completely similar on both sides. The interior of the screen, however, composes a kind of cloyster of three divisions, full of the richest and most delightful tracery. This cloyster work presents an extraordinary mode of geometrical support in the groins, which, though on a miniature scale, forms an incontestable proof of the great skill in roofing and in arching of the Gothic architects; for there are no spandrils to the ribs, "they being left to seek their pointed flight, independent of any such seeming assistance; in the diagonal line behind the ribs there is open tracery filling in that narrow space; nothing can exceed the lightness, and it may be said, the magic touch of these vaulted bows." Throughout the whole of this splendid work, the minutiæ of mouldings and ornaments are delicate and rich to excess; "in fine, this screen may be held as one of the gems of ecclesiastical decoration in this part of the north: a jewel most worthy to be prized, and by these men of taste and discernment who have, to the high honour of this church, so long kept it unsullied and free from all dilapidation, or more *fatal improvement*. In the renovation of this work, great pains have been taken not only to preserve its beauties,

beauties, but to restore as much of its ancient splendour as possible; and great judgement seems displayed in the placing the names, or rather titles, of the various incumbents over their stalls, which has the effect of carrying the mind of the spectator back to the earliest times. The tourist is now led into the avenue extending to the *Chapter House*, in which the part below the windows consists of recesses with columns and arches enriched with heads in ancient costume, adding much to the beauty of the pointed windows with their pleasing tracery, and the rich light groins of the roof. With respect to the *exterior* of the Chapter House, Mr. Rastall very justly observes that it does not boast a profusion of ornament, though its battlements and buttresses are light and well finished, and in a good taste. Its *interior* indeed is much superior; and the arch of entrance has always arrested the attention of visitors, being superior perhaps to any thing else of the kind in the kingdom. The double entrance is indeed replete with grace; its ornaments are many, and the running foliage of vines and other plants is in a style of alto relief incredibly rich and airy.* The roof is of stone work; and, though not so richly ornamented as in other parts, is yet light, simple, and elegant. In the wall are many niches forming the stalls, extending quite round the room, separated from each other by small cylindrical columns. The variety in the devices which ornament these niches is extreme; as no two of them are alike. The windows form fine specimens of the later Gothic; but their sainted and armorial glass has long been destroyed. It is to be hoped, however, that the introduction of modern stained glass will here once more

"Teach light to counterfeit a gloom!"

In short, as it has been well observed, altogether the columns,

 arches,

* The writer of Pursuits of Architectural Innovation, is of opinion, from the costume of the heads, &c. being a king and queen, a bishop, ladies of various ranks, &c. that this part is of the age of Henry the second; but Mr. Rastall refers the whole to the reign of Edward the third, whilst he attributes the choir to that of Edward the first.

arches, galleries, windows, groins, mouldings, and ornaments, both of the exterior and interior, are truly genuine, and full of that infinite variety that particularly characterises, and which perhaps gives to Southwell a celebrity not possessed by any other similar fabric.

Carter, in his work on Ancient Sculpture, has given many specimens from this church, principally illustrative of antique head dresses. He thinks the very ancient hieroglyphical sculpture (of a man drawing the teeth of a lion, accompanied by a lamb, and angel, and a dragon, which is placed over the doorway leading to the belfry) alludes to David whilst keeping his father's sheep; but Mr. Rastall considers it as typical of Christ, and supposes it to be the most ancient specimen of Saxon sculpture in existence in this kingdom, perhaps even antecedent to the building of the church!

The *Tombs* here are not very numerous; and seemed of so little consequence to Thoroton, that he has not given a single engraving of them. The oldest is in the north aisle, and is exactly in the shape of a modern coffin, under a circular arch; there are also several altar tombs; but the brasses have been stolen, the figures mutilated, and in some instances destroyed. The most worthy of notice is that of archbishop Sandys within the rails near to the altar. It is a large alabaster altar tomb with his effigies reclining upon it, and having on the front his widow and nine children kneeling, with a Latin epitaph at one end.

In the *Churchyard*, was a College for the chauntry priests, of which there are some remains; but the Vicarage, which once possessed some curious carvings, was taken down in 1780.

From the wells in this churchyard, and others, this modern name is said to have arisen. On the right of the cloyster was the *Holy well*; and the *Lady's well* was also within the consecrated ground, but filled up in consequence of a clergyman being drowned in it in a dark night.*

Many

* St. Catharine's Well is in West-thorpe, and is celebrated for rheumatic cures. The *South* well, called the Lord's well, is about half a mile S. E. from the town.

Many discoveries have been made here in digging; and Peck, in his Desiderata Curiosa (Book 6,) gives an account of a body being found in the south aisle dressed in cloth of silver tissue; with leather boots, a wand by his side, and on his breast something like a silver cup with an acorn or bunch of leaves on its top. Some have supposed him to be one of the family of *Caux*; but Mr. Gough considers him as a *Religious* from the chalice and crozier. His skull was thin and very transparent; and his teeth were all sound, and taken away by the spectators; even the stitching of the boots was in preservation, though the leather tore like paper.

In the British Museum* is a grant by Elizabeth in the year 1585, which enumerates the foundation and statutes by Henry the eighth and Mary; and then enacts that all vicars and ministers of this church, three times per day, shall assemble at such hours as the archbishop shall appoint, decently and reverently in the choir, each in his station and place, and each in his choral habit; also that the Scripture shall be preached every dominical day or festival; that if any prebendary shall neglect his duty, he shall forfeit ten shillings which shall be given to the person who supplies his place, or if no such person, then to the poor of the town of Southwell; the vicars and singers, to forfeit a penny to be divided amongst the others; that the choir service shall be performed by six *skilled* in music, and by six *instructed* in the same. "Moreover if any canon, or any other member of the church, shall be convicted either of heresy against the law of God, or of treason, simony, usury, perjury, knowntheft, voluntary homicide, adultery, fornication, or dilapidation of the goods of the church, by two competent witnesses, or by his own confession, or by the notoriety of the fact, he shall without delay be deprived of his canonry, prebend, or whatever place he may hold in the church;" and it seems that, in days of Catholicism, the vicars were forbidden to have any female servants, but those whose ages exempted them

* Ayscough's Catalogue, 4934, 2.

from all suspicion of amorous inclination. Regulations so strict could not fail of producing a decent and orderly behaviour in these, almost monastic, institutions; nay, were perhaps very necessary, if we are to believe all the stories of monkish knavery and wickedness so often bandied about at the time of the Reformation. But scandal was even busy in the 17th century, when one Gervase Lee was fined in the Star chamber for a libel contained in a ballad, which Mr. Rastall has preserved; one stanza of which runs thus:

> "Again they hold of their Virgin Mary
> *Ecce quem bonum est cohabitare;*
> And neither keep bakehouse, brewhouse, nor dairy,
> Nor any residence, nor tell us *Quare*!"

The whole Establishment now consists of *sixteen* prebendaries, or canons holding prebends, *six* vicars choral, organist, *six* singing men, *six* choristers, and *six* boys as probationers, a register to the chapter, a treasurer, auditor, verger, &c.

Here also are two annual synods, at which all the Nottinghamshire clergy attend; and over which a certain number of the prebendaries and other clergymen are nominated by the archbishop of York to preside.

The civil government is distinct from that of the county in general, and called the "Soke of Southwell cum Scrooby." Adjoining to the church is a *Free school* under the care of the chapter, the master of which is chosen by them, but must be approved by the archbishop.

There are also two fellowships and two scholarships in St. John's College, Cambridge, to be presented by the master and fellows of that college to such persons as they shall think proper, who have been choristers of Southwell. These were founded by Dr. Keton, canon of Salisbury, in the reign of Henry the eighth.

With respect to the PREBENDS, there were *ten* existing before the Conquest: the most ancient are the three belonging to

Norwell

Norwell, consisting of *Norwell Overall*, *Palace-hall*, and *Tertia Pars*; next come *Normanton*, a small hamlet in the vicinity; *Oxton Prima* and *Secunda*; *Wodborough*; *North* and *South* Muskham; and *Sacrista*, a local and kind of official prebend, its revenues, in addition to some lands in Southwell, arising from the pentecostal offerings.

The six established since the Conquest are *Beckingham*, *Leverton*, *Dunham*, *Halloughton* or *Hawton*, *Rampton*, and *Eaton* or Idleton, which last was founded in 1289. The prior of Thurgarton also claimed a right to a stall in the choir, superior to those of the prebendaries, which was allowed to him; and is still preserved with his name on it. In 1576, it was ordered that the *Resident Prebendary* was to have all the tythe pigs, &c. for his household expense, with all other profits of the jurisdiction; and every residentiary, vicar choral, or singing man, being disposed to enter into commons with him, was to pay from 3*s.* 4*d.* to 2*s.* 2*d.* per week.

The house (of modern erection) appointed for the resident prebendary, is a very handsome building at the east end of the church, and is worthy the most elegant domestic establishment; but in 1706 it was decreed, as a safeguard of ecclesiastical economy, that an entertainment of no greater expense than 3*l.* should be provided by each new prebendary when installed; he was at the same time obliged to give 2*l.* for the benefit of the library. The *Residence* is taken in regular rotation.

The Archbishop's Palace situated on the south side of the *Minster yard*, within what was once called the Little, or New Park, was once an elegant building, according to the ancient taste. The scite of the mansion still belongs to the see; and Thoroton observes "the archbishop had a very fair palace here demolished in the late rebellion; some think it was built by Cardinal Wolsey, and if it were not, I should guess at the archbishops *Bothes*, for they or one of them builded a chapel joyning to the south wall of the church, which by negligence in the late

late wars is now utterly ruined, as is also a very fine marble tomb, &c."

Even in ruins, as Mr. Rastall observes, it retains much of its ancient grandeur, shewing its original magnificence and extent. In the eastern wing were the rooms of state; the western, occupied by the offices; and the north containing the chapel, and great hall, which may be said to remain entire, though much of its antique beauty is destroyed by a modern fitting up as a domestic residence. In this is a room, lighted by the great west window of the ancient hall, and appropriated to the justices of the Soke for their sessions; and the quadrangle, once surrounded by the offices, is now converted into a pleasant and romantic bowling green.

The ruins are still extensive, with many pointed gables, Gothic windows, and circular chimnies of the age of Henry the eighth, still remaining; and being deeply overshadowed with ivy, and embosomed in trees, they add much to the romantic beauty of Southwell.

During the civil wars, it was completely gutted of every thing that was valuable, or useful; and there are still many traditional stories respecting it. One of these is recorded by Throsby, who says that, in 1740, in clearing away the vaults of this palace, the workmen found the entire skeleton of a man standing upright, with boots and spurs on, and some part of his military arms lying at his feet. Near to this was a skull with the head of an axe in the cleft, with which it may be supposed this person was killed. This discovery has therefore given additional credit to a local tradition that a deserter or spy had been taken up in Southwell, when Charles the first was there, and that some of the soldiers had thrust him into a vault or well where he lost his life.

The archiepiscopal *Parks* were once four in number; but have been divided and enclosed since the destruction of the palace in the civil wars. It appears also that the lands of the see were sold during the usurpation for about 5000*l*. During those

those unhappy times, Charles the first was often here; and, like most other places at that period, it often experienced the fate of war; it is said, indeed, that the garrison of Newark once cut to pieces here the greatest part of a Parliamentarian regiment.*

The head quarters of the king were sometimes at the palace, and sometimes at the INN, particularly on the 6th of May 1646, when he came here privately, and surrendered himself to the Scotch commissioners. Peck in his Desiderata, Vol. II. Book 9, gives (from Rushworth) a whining letter from the Scotch army, denying that the king had made terms; asserting that he was for some days in their army without their knowing him; talking much of a witness in Heaven, and of the Covenant; and almost saying in plain terms, "now that we have him, what will you give for him."?

The apartment in which the king dined that day is still in existence, and nearly in its original state. It is on the south side, or left hand of the gateway of the *Saracen's Head* at the upper part of the churchyard; the removal of which sign, some time ago, discovered the old one of the *King's Arms* cut in stone, but which being probably unfashionable in the days of Republicanism had been superseded, or rather covered, by that which now exists. A little before the king's death, this same apartment was used by Cromwell when he was sent to oppose the northern army; the *palace* having been rendered unfit for his reception, by the soldiers who had attended the commissioners having stripped all the lead off the roof.

A story is current in the town, and mentioned by Throsby, of the unfortunate monarch at one of his visits here during the decline of his affairs, which imports, that walking about the town and

* A Mr. Cludd was at that time a conspicuous character here, and his influence great as a Parliamentary partizan. A coxcomical servant of his being sent to London to give some information respecting the approach of the royal army, he was asked "How matters went on in Nottinghamshire?" To which he replied, "Very well! I and my master rule all there!!!"

and being unknown, he entered the shop of one Lee, a fanatic shoemaker, whom he desired to take his measure for a pair of shoes: but Lee after some little hesitation refused to perform this office, saying that *he* was the customer whom he had seen in a dream the preceding night, and of whom he had been warned, as a man devoted to destruction, being told at the same time that those who worked for him would never thrive! Throsby gives a Mr. Savage as the narrator of the tale; but we imagine it is like many others told after the events have taken place.

Southwell cannot be said to possess any *Trade*; but its MARKET, held on a Saturday, is one of the best in the county. It also has a FAIR on Whitmonday, for horses, horned cattle, sheep, and merchandize.

A PUBLIC WALK or parade has been made on the north side of the churchyard in 1784. This is commodious, well shaded from the weather on every side, extending the whole length of the churchyard, and pleasingly planted with trees and shrubs; but we cannot help thinking that a spot for cheerful and loquacious rambling might be found more appropriate than the sombre purlieus of decaying mortality.

The COUNTY BRIDEWELL is used as a prison for the various manors belonging to the archbishopric, within the county. This edifice was first erected in 1656; and many additions, together with the surrounding walls, were built in 1787. Its situation is airy and healthful, upon the decline of a gentle hill, and close to the Burgage Green, which is opposite to the entrance. In this place means have been judiciously taken to separate the various descriptions of offenders: and both in appearance and arrangement it bears a miniature resemblance to the Coldbath Fields prison of the metropolis; but a late writer complains much of some of the interior regulations,* the separation of offenders being in the following manner; males, for petty offences,

* In the Gents. Mag. Vol. 76, page 106, may be seen a complete ichnographical description of this place, by Mr. Nield.

fences, one room and a small court-yard; vagrants, a court-yard, a day and sleeping room for males, and others for females; faulty servants, a court-yard and apartments; three solitary cells, with iron gratings over the doors, "through which those in solitary confinement are enabled to see and converse with the female felons in their chambers or on the steps." When Mr. Nield wrote, an arrangement also existed, which has since been in some measure remedied; he says, that in the floor of the felon's dayroom there "is a trapdoor, on opening which you descend by ten steps into a loathsome hole or dungeon, about 14 feet by 10, with three wooden bedsteads, on which lay some short dirty straw, and pieces, or bits of dirty ragged rugs. The only ventilation or glimmering light this miserable place receives, is through an iron grating, two feet ten by only eight inches, and level with the court: in this damp and loathsome dungeon seven of the prisoners heavily ironed sleep every night." In repeating these animadversions, we mean not *wantonly* to advocate the cause of the guilty; but surely the spirit, if not the *letter*, of English law requires not such *additional* punishment to be inflicted even upon *convicts*. That loathsome dungeons were formerly the prisons of the *accused*, as well as of the *condemned*, is but too true; and it is no doubt proper that prisons, in addition to the punishment of confinement, should make their inhabitants both *feel* and *think*: but surely this may always be done with a due regard to health and personal cleanliness; one of which is a blessing, and the other a virtue which forms the corner stone of the physical and moral welfare of human nature.

The CIVIL GOVERNMENT of Southwell may be called *amphibious*, being divided between the clergy and laity; the prebendage being under the jurisdiction of the one, and the burgage subject to the other. It is thus the head of a peculiar jurisdiction, both civil and ecclesiastical; twenty towns, (or villages) being within its liberty, or civil limits, for which a sessions of the peace is held, independent of the county; whilst the ecclesiastical

siastical extend over twenty-eight. The civil administration is held at Southwell and at Scrooby, by the justices, nominated by the archbishop, but acting under a commission from the crown; and the *Chapter* in the person of their vicar general exercise all episcopal functions within the peculiar, except ordination and confirmation.

UPTON is a handsome village near Southwell, with a small Gothic church dedicated to St. Peter. Throsby tells us that in his time, the village just contained as many inhabitants as there are days in the year; but Leap year must surely have made some difference in this very nice calculation! The village consists principally of farm houses, but a starch manufactory has been some time established. Some land had been willed here in perpetuity, for the purpose of repairing the church, the balance of annual profit to be given to the poor soldiers travelling through, and any overbalance to be at the discretion of the inhabitants. By this means (the lands being worth about twenty pounds per annum) the church is kept in good order; but any trifling balances are now employed to find militia men, and to ease the parish rates.

NORMANTON is a parish close to Southwell; and here Thoroton tells us was an ancient capital messuage, the seat of the *Hunts*, merchants of the staple in Nottingham in the reign of Edward the fourth, since which period, the Cartwrights built a house of brick and stone. Edingley village or chapelry is in the parish, and is worthy notice for its small but ancient chapel with curious zigzag ornaments over the western entrance. Another chapel is now occupied as a barn.

WINCKBOURNE, now the seat of P. Pegge Burnell, Esq. has long been the property of that family, who built the hallhouse. It was anciently the property of the priory of St. John of Jerusalem. The chapel near the house has a very conspicuous tower, and contains several monuments of the Burnells, one an armed knight, but mostly illegible except a very modern one for D'Arcy Burnell, Esq. in 1772.

Kersall is merely noticed here as having once had a Quaker's meeting, and burying ground; but the former has long been abandoned.

EYKERING VILLAGE is nearly a mile in length, but not equally populous, as its habitations are much scattered. The rectory is an elegant building, for its size, with very handsome pleasure grounds, and the church is respectable. There is great reason to believe that this was the residence of that family from which sprung *Will Scarlet* the friend of Robin Hood; for about that period, Robert Scarlet and Beatrix his wife gave lands here to the monks of Rufford abbey, for which the monks in return gave him a she goat, and to his wife a cow! this, however, is the *first* and *last* instance we have ever met with of monks giving any thing in this world, though very prodigal of the next!

Turning to the southward, we now come to KIRTLINGTON HALL, the seat of Mrs. Whetham, a large modern building of three stories, with two projecting octagonal wings tower fashion, and the whole topped with battlements. It stands near the village, and has a handsome lawn with an extensive piece of water in front, finely diversified by rising swells. The village is but small, and is situated on the Mansfield road; the church, dedicated to St. Swithin, has a large chancel, and some relics of old monumental stones and crosses.

Near this is *Hexgrave*, anciently a park, with evident vestiges of a Roman encampment placed on a hill. In some spots, the ditch and vallum may still be traced, but the intermediate lines have been completely destroyed by the plough. About three miles south-west from this, at Combe's farm to the left of the Mansfield road, is another, of which a drawing may be seen in the 8th volume of Archæologia. It commands a most extensive view over the forest, and that indefatigable antiquary, Major Rooke, very justly observes that from this, and others, we have great reason to admire the judgement of the Romans in their choice of these situations, as they not only have clear prospects over the surrounding country, but are so situated, that intelligence

intelligence might always be conveyed by signals. Mr. Rastall is of opinion that these works are not Roman; it is true that they may have originally been British; but that they were also of Roman occupancy is proved by the discovery of the coins and other antiquities.

Halam is a small village, with some rude paintings in its church windows. Throsby has given some drawings of these; and, as they are nothing more than Adam digging and Eve spinning, they almost tempt us to date their origin from an older period than the introduction of armorial blazonry upon glass in this kingdom.

HALLOUGHTON, or Hawton, was remarkable for an ancient mansion house upon the prebendal estate, which Mr. Rastall says was very dark and gloomy, with an appearance of considerable antiquity, and situated within a very few yards of the parish church. It was, upon the whole, not unlike many of the remains of old monasteries that have been continued to our day; and this sort of sombrous grandeur may possibly have given rise to the report of its having once belonged to a monastic society. Great alterations have indeed lately taken place; but Throsby records that during the repair, in taking up the kitchen floor, there was found a large stone about the size of a mill stone, under which was a large key; and which was supposed to have been left there by design. Some time after, this place was more minutely examined, and it proved to be the mouth of a cavity, enclosed by a circular wall, and traced for some distance by the workmen until their further search was interrupted by a quantity of water. He adds, that there was a tradition in Southwell, of a subterraneous passage from this place to Thurgarton; and that in taking down a stack of chimnies in this house, there was found in the middle of them a large recess, in which were many human skeletons quite entire and uncovered with earth, chiefly those of children! We will not vouch for the truth of these discoveries; but, if correct, they seem not in-

consistent with the old tradition of a *religious* foundation, as some of these were perhaps too often mismamed.

Eperston owes much of its present comfort and respectability to the fostering care of the late Earl Howe. It has a tiled roofed church with a spire, dedicated to the Holy Cross: here are some curious old monumental stones; but they have been long worn by the feet of departed generations, are now covered with nettles, and coated with moss. This may have been a small Roman station, as a number of coins of that people were found here in 1776.

WOODBOROUGH, the next parish, is a cheerful, populous, village, with a church dedicated to St. Swithin, built on an extensive scale, and now possessing many vestiges of ancient magnificence, particularly in the windows of the chancel, where are still some fragments of armorial glass containing the intermarriages of the Strelleys. In the chancel are also some brasses for the family of Bainbrigge, the present owners. The family seat is an old plain hall, in which resides Mrs. Bainbrigge, a widow lady, long remarkable for her very extraordinary benevolence, and lately particularly so for her generous benefaction of 1000*l.* to the *General Hospital* of Nottingham. Woodborough is one of the prebends of Southwell.

"About three miles northward from Colwick, is the town of *Byrton*, called *Byrton Forz*, (now BURTON JOYCE,) upon the bank of the river Trent, wherein were in times past two auncient houses of two auncient gentlemen, one of Forz, the other of Byrton. That of Forz, Bryan Stapleton, Esq. late held, and sold it to Sir Tho. Stanhope; the heiress of Byrton was marryed to Meynell and Wood. Meynell now possesses his; but Wood's heir sold his part, &c."* The village is but small, and belongs entirely to the Chesterfield family; and the church contains several ancient tombs, and armorial glass, of the families of Frecheville, Jors, Roose, Stapleton, &c. At Bulcote, in the

* Harl. Coll. 368.

parish, a boarding school for young gentlemen has long possessed considerable reputation.

GUNTHORPE had formerly a chapel, now converted into a blacksmith's shop: here also is a ferry over the Trent. In the same vicinity is HOVERINGHAM, which Sir F. Eden, in 1794, designates as containing a few stocking weavers, but principally agriculturists, chiefly of the established church; with two alehouses and one friendly society. Sir Richard Sutton, to whom the manor came by purchase, was at considerable expense in repairing the small church, which has an ancient Saxon porch with a very curious bas relief of the patron saint, Michael the archangel, and the dragon. A modern buttress, found necessary at the late repair, unfortunately conceals much of this specimen of ancient sculpture; but enough is still visible to gratify the antiquary.

Gonalston is principally remarkable for its ancient foundation in a part of the parish called *Bradebusk*. Tanner says that "William Heris, temp. Henry 3, built here an hospital to the honour of St. Mary Magdalen, which is still in being, and called Gonalston Spittle." Throsby calls it "an ill looking place," and it certainly cannot be reckoned amongst the beauties of Nottinghamshire; yet though the chapel is in such a state of ruin as to have no glass in the windows, each new incumbent is obliged to preach here on his induction to the living. Here is a charity school for six boys.

THURGARTON is said by Mr. Rastall to be compounded of *Thor's-Garth-ton*; and to have been first Roman, then Saxon. Tanner says, that Ralph de Ayncourt about 1130 placed here a prior and a convent of canons of the order of St. Austin; St. Peter being their tutelar saint: and it appears that this noble baron was extremely accommodating to the church by this grant; for an ancient MSS. in the British Museum says that he "turned his house into an abbey." The tenants of these lands after they came into possession of the monks, were under some curious regulations, amongst which "every she native, as oft as

as she took a husband, or committed fornication, was to give for the redemption of her blood 5s. 4d.; but if the daughter of a cottager only half!" The village, notwithstanding these licenses for population, is still but small, with a church once of considerable magnificence, but now almost dilapidated, nothing but one dark aisle remaining, partially lighted by a window which has been formed out of one of the principal entrances, once a noble specimen of Gothic elegance. At the dissolution it was granted to the ancestors of the family of Cooper, the present possessors; some of whose monuments are in the church, but of a modern date.

The ancient priory was pulled down by the late Mr. Cooper, who, leaving only some small remains of the foundation now incorporated in the cellars, built a plain modern house of three stories high, *Thurgarton Hall*, upon its scite. Mr. Rastall complains, that part of the remains of the abbey, now destroyed, consisted of a kitchen, vast and magnificent almost beyond parallel or comparison, and very feelingly adds that an antiquary must be allowed to lament the false taste which dictated the destruction of so noble a monument of ancient grandeur. The grounds are pleasingly diversified with wood and water; but the mansion has been some time in lease to John Brettle, Esq.

In *Denthorpe*, or Dunethorpe, in this parish, the prior of Thurgarton and the abbot of Peterborough agreed that all the tenants were to plow for the church three days in the year. "Each plough to have per day four loaves and four herrings. They were likewise two days and a half in autumn, and to have their wonted meat once in the day, and the second day likewise, if the abbot would have them all day, otherwise to go away at nine o'clock without meat, &c."

Fiskerton, on the banks of the Trent, has a ferry which crosses to Stoke. It appears an increasing place, having several coal-wharfs and warehouses connected with the Trent navigation. Here was anciently an Austin cell. Tanner tells us, that this manor having been granted to the priory of Thurgar-

ton by Ralph de Ayncourt the founder, in the court or manor house, were soon after placed some few black canons belonging to that monastery, who had a chapel here dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, and several benefactions settled upon them. This was one of the very few houses which were granted to the laity in the time of Philip and Mary; and was given to Lord Clinton and Thomas Morrison.

Norwood, about two miles from Southwell, has a small modern seat built of brick and stone by John Sutton, Esq. which afterwards coming to his brother and heir, Sir Richard Sutton, Bart. an act of Parliament was procured to enable the archbishop of York to grant him this place in fee, in exchange for other lands of equal value. The situation of the house is extremely pleasant; being on a gentle slope, with a small piece of water in the bottom, and the approach is pleasingly striking, through scattered clumps of firs and larches, interspersed with some venerable oaks. This mansion is at present, we believe, occupied by Thomas Wright, Esq.

Returning to the great north road we arrive at

SUTTON UPON TRENT,

Which is indeed nothing more than a large village, consisting of many scattered dwellings upon the bank of the river. It is, however, a good central situation for the tourist who wishes to examine the few parishes of this county which lie beyond Trent.

The *Church* here is a vicarage, and was anciently in the patronage of the prior of Worksop, who possessed the rectory. It is dedicated to All Saints; and, having a slender spire on a tower of some elevation, has a good effect when seen from a distance. The nave and two side aisles are in good condition, but there are no ancient monuments, except one under an antique arch in the chancel but without inscription.

It

It was formerly in the Sutton family; but Richard de Sutton leaving five daughters, coheiresses, the manor was divided, and Mary the fourth daughter had the greatest share: her granddaughter Joan was wife of Bertram de Monbouchier who claimed a market here every Monday weekly, and a yearly fair for two days, on the eve and feast of St. James the apostle; but these are now disused.

An extraordinary fact is recorded here of the lateness of the harvest in the year 1800, when on the first of March the harvest after much difficulty and labour terminated, by getting home a field of beans in excellent condition!

North Collingham is a pretty large village with some good houses. Its very ancient church is of Saxon origin, all the arches on the south side of the nave being of that order. Those are very irregular in size; and, though of excellent workmanship, do not appear as if intended for part of *this* building, but are perhaps a part of the old priory church which is traditionally related to have existed here. It is dedicated to St. John the Baptist, and has a good tower with four bells. This parish with its neighbour was formerly the property of the abbot of Peterborough, who, as early as the reign of Henry the third, had a grant of free warren here, and set up a gallows, as being within his jurisdiction. If he had no right, he was notwithstanding determined to shew his power, and accordingly hanged a thief upon it: but the bishop of Lincoln, who claimed the lordship of Newark, and of the whole of its wapentake, ordered the gallows to be taken down.

South Collingham lies nearer to Newark, and has a small church dedicated to All Saints, and a Baptist meeting house. Stukeley takes notice of a high barrow or tumulus called Potter's Hill, stated traditionally to have been a Roman pottery; it is likely, however, to have been originally a Roman, or perhaps a British, military station, as it stands upon an eminence commanding a prospect of the road on both sides. Gough, indeed, says, "at Collingham, or Burgh near it, was the *Crocolana*

of Antoninus. The ramparts are plowed over; but the Roman coins, Burgh Pennies, have been found here, and foundations often struck up. Many pots, urns, bricks, iron ore, and cinders, have been found here." Mr. Thresby's observation on this is of rather a curious nature: for after acknowledging that such things have been dug up here, he adds yet not *such kind* of pottery or of bricks "from what I could learn that indicate that this place had been a Roman station of *that consequence* as Crocolana:" but if these things were *Roman*, the *kind* can have nothing to do with the *consequence* of the station or establishment, for at our own manufactories goods of different qualities may be found.

North and South Clifton, though two distinct villages, a mile asunder, have but one church, decent in its arrangements, but containing nothing curious. At North Clifton there was formerly a collegiate chauntry for secular priests; but the whole edifice has been long since totally destroyed.

That this place has been formerly of considerable note is manifest from various discoveries. Mr. Pegge observes that Clifton hill* has a red cliff near the Trent, for the space of a mile, which though it seems natural, yet produces innumerable pieces of urns of various colours. He adds, that there are many bones and scalps often found, "and there lately tumbled out an ancient grave stone without inscription, but with some iron work, wherewith the parts seem to have been united. The inhabitants tell of some pieces of lead with figures upon them, and discourse much of Clifton castle, which they suppose to have been placed upon the hill."

Here is a ferry over the Trent, but the inhabitants are *ferry free;* and in lieu, the ferryman and his dog have each a dinner at the vicarage at Christmas, of roast beef and plum pudding, and the parson's dog is always turned out whilst the ferryman's eats his share of the entertainment. The ferryman also has a right

* Bibl. Top. Brit. Vol. III. p. 486.

right, on that day, to claim from the villagers a prime loaf of bread.

THORNEY is a small village with a church dedicated to St. Helen, and containing some monuments of the Neville family, not of very ancient date. Here is a very agreeable seat of George Neville, Esq. with pleasing grounds; but the most important object is the scene of improved cultivation, a large tract of low moors, often flooded by rains, and said, in the late agricultural survey, to be the worst land which the editor had ever seen. Yet this has all been reclaimed within the last thirty years, by a good system of drainage, followed up by limeing, and manuring: the worst land has thus been rendered fit for planting, and upwards of two hundred acres are in a very flourishing state, whilst the remainder by judicious cropping and feeding is now in a state amply to repay the very extraordinary expenses, incurred particularly in the article of manure.*

Brodholme is in Thorney parish, but contains only two or three houses. It once, however, had a monastery; and Tanner tells us that Agnes de Camville, wife of Peter Gousla, (the founder of Newhouse for Præmonstratensian canons,) placed here a prioress and nuns of that order, about the latter part of the reign of king Stephen. This small monastery, situated upon the borders of the county next to Lincolnshire, was dedicated to the blessed Virgin Mary, and had possessions rated at 16*l.*; but Sarah, daughter of Agnes and Peter, seems to have been its greatest benefactress, having both added to and confirmed the original grant.

In an old MSS. in the British Museum,† there is a curious story of some priests giving to a nun a *green gown!*

"I. I find under Brevia Rex Edwardi III. anno XXIV. that William Fox, Parson of Lee near Gainsborough, John Fox,

* Vide a letter of Mr. Neville's to Sir Richard Sutton, Bart. in the Agricultural Survey, p. 30.

† Ayscough's Catalogue, 4938, 135, with a marginal reference to Weaver's Funeral Monuments.

and Thomas de Lingestone, Friars minors of the convent in Lincoln, were indited before Gilbert d'Umfravill and other Justices in partibus de Lindley apud Thwancaster, die Sabbati post festum S. Johannis Baptisti, in the said yere. 2. for that they came to Bradholme, a nunnery in the county of Nottingham, the XVIII. of the Kalands of February, and then and there rapuerunt et abduxerunt inde, contra pacem D^i. Regis, &c.—violently took, and forcibly carried away thence, against the peace of their Sovereign Lord the King, a certain nun by name Margaret de Everingham, a sister of the said House (stripping her of her religious habits, and putting upon her a green gown or robe of the secular fashion) and also divers goods to the value of XL. S."—

HARDBY, or Herdeby, a small village upon the verge of the county, is remarkable as the place where Queen Eleanor lay ill and died. How little dependence can at any time be placed in tradition is exemplified in this instance, by the very absurd story which Mr. Throsby picked up here. He says, "the inhabitants here have a simple tradition, that a Queen Catharine resided ages since at this place. Foundations of some capital buildings are here frequently discovered, which foster the tradition." If Mr. Throsby, however, had looked into Gough's additions to Camden, he would have found that Herdby "where Queen Eleanor died 29th of November, 19th of Edward the first was not, as vulgarly supposed, near Bolingbroke in Lincolnshire, but in the parish of North Clifton on the Trent, in this county, five miles from Lincoln, where was a villa and chapel of ease to that parish which is one of the prebends of Lincoln. The king founded a chauntry here; afterwards removed to Lincoln where her bowels were buried." Here the first cross was erected, but is now destroyed; and the next was at Lincoln.

Returning into the great north road, we come to WESTON, a very pleasant village, seated upon a hill, with a neat Gothic church, and commanding a fine view over the northern part of the

the county; particularly *Scarthing moor* to which we descend, and where the tourist, if fatigued, may be elegantly accommodated at *Scarthing moor Inn*, a single and extremely elegant house on the right hand side of the road. It is cased with a stonelike composition, and has a very handsome corridore arranged as a greenhouse, connecting it with the offices, with a shrubbery in front, and presenting all the *agremens* of a private mansion.

The moor being now in a state of inclosure presents a pleasing scene of cultivation, contrasting finely with some wild, though flat, scenery in its vicinity.

Two miles further of excellent road bring us to

TUXFORD,*

Often called Tuxford in the Clay, from its situation in that division of the hundred, and well known as a posting stage on the north road.

Old Barnaby in describing his northern route, says

> "Thence to Tuxford in the Clay there,
> Where poor travellers find such way there;
> Ways like bird-lime seem to shew them,
> Seats are Syrts to such as know them;
> Th' ivy hangs there, long has't hung there,
> Wine is never vended strong there."

If the wine is not better than in Barnaby's days, more of it is now sold there, for the town consists principally of inns for the great resort to it as a thoroughfare.

The town is but small, but is of more modern appearance than many others in the county, having been burned down on the eighth of Sept. 1702. Much of what is rebuilt, however, consists of farm residences; and there is scarcely any trade in the place except in hops, of which a considerable quantity is raised in the vicinity. The Fair for this article takes place on the 25th

* Gough says, "branded, to a proverb, for its miry situation."

25th of September; and there is another on the 12th of May for cattle, sheep, pigs, and poultry. The market is on Monday, and is fully supplied for the small population, which by the returns of 1801 consisted only of 785 in 110 houses; being 400 males, and 385 females. The church, which is opposite to the principal inn, is dedicated to St. Nicholas, consists of a nave and side aisle, and has a spire with five good bells. All the ancient monuments mentioned by Thoroton, as well as the armorial glass, are in a state of decay; there is, however, still in existence a representation of St. Laurence roasting on a gridiron; one man is employed in blowing the fire, another turning him with a pair of tongs, and a third looking on; also some specimens in the north porch of a priest in the attitude of prayer. This latter is on a stone of a coffin shape; the figure is only a bust, with his head shaven, and a cushion under it, accompanied by a quatrefoil, rondeau, chalice, and patten, the emblems of the sacerdotal office. In the north wall also is a very ancient figure of a lady in a square head dress, strait surcoat, and long sleeves, and a hound at her feet; opposite to her is an altar tomb with the mutilated trunk of an armed knight; but the armorial bearings are too obscure to be ascertained.

Of its former history, we find recorded in Tanner, that here was a college founded by John de Longvillers who obtained leave to place in the parsonage house here a college of five chaplains, one of whom to be warden; but that not taking effect, he got leave from Edward the third to give this advowson to Newstead priory, that they might find five chaunting priests, viz. three at Tuxford, and two at their own conventual church, whose duty should be to pray for his soul, &c.

But a more rational establishment is of later date, and consists of a Grammar School, which is held in a well-built house and has long been in considerable repute. It deserves particular mention; we shall, therefore, give an extract from a MSS. in the British Museum.*

"From

* Ayscough's Catalogue, 4934. 28.

"From a MSS. copy in the hands of Isaac Garner, Gent. of Grantham, June 1st, 1731. Mr. Charles Read by his last will and testament, dated 30 July 1669, amongst other matters, wills thus:

1. "Item, I do hereby give and bequeath for the maintenance of two several Free Grammer Schools," (one at Corby in Lincolnshire) "to be erected, constituted, and continued for ever, after my death.—

4. Item, for the respective teaching and instructing of the youth and children of the inhabitants of the said respective towns and parishes, to write, read, and cast accounts, and further to instruct them in Latin, as occasion shall require respectively.

5. The several yearly sums or stipends of 20*l.* apiece per annum.

6. And I do hereby likewise give to eight boys (the sons of poor widows of ministers, and of decayed gentlemen and their widows who are not able to maintain their charge,) the sum of 5*l.* per annum apiece, for ever, towards their maintenance in dyet and otherwise; to enter at their respective ages of seven years or upwards, and to be continued, taught, and instructed, gratis, by the respective masters of the respective schools for the time being, in such manner as the rest of the children of the respective inhabitants of the aforesaid towns and parishes respectively ought to be taught as aforesaid, untill their respective ages of sixteen years; and then to be removed and others to be admitted in their places, viz. four of them by the master for the time being of the Freeschool of Corby, where they are there to reside; and four of them by the master for the time being of the Freeschool of Tuxford aforesaid, where they are to reside, till their said ages of sixteen years as aforesaid.

7. Gives lands in fee to trustees.

9. Appoints six freeholders of Tuxford as trustees for an half.

19. Declares

19. Declares all surplusses to be for repairs, &c.; but first to build schoolhouses, and lodgings for the masters.

24. Requests the lords of the respective manors to give pieces of ground (waste) for the purpose.

30. Appoints mayor and aldermen of Grantham to be visitors.

34. In case of abuse, such parts to be entered upon by the heirs at law, but to recontinue the salaries, &c. on ceasing of the abuse.

42. Gives 200*l.* towards the building of the schoolhouse, &c." We have been the more diffuse on this head, not only to render it an example to others in this liberal age; but also to preserve the memory of such parts as may have become nearly dormant, or at least unknown to those whose circumstances most require such adventitious aid in the education of their little ones.

Of EGMANTON, in this neighbourhood, we are told that in the reign of Henry the first, there was one Nigellus de Albini, brother to the Earls of Clare and Arundel, then a young man of a good disposition, and great hope; who carrying the king's bow was made a knight, and for his honesty enfeoffed by that monarch with this manor, with the parks and appurtenances. He had not been seized of them long, when he gave them to his bosom friend Robert D'Aiville; this coming to the king's knowledge, he enquired into its truth, when Nigellus answered "It was," adding that now the king had got two honest knights instead of one. Nigellus was the founder of the family of Mowbray, and the descendants of D'Aiville held it of that family as far down as the time of Edward the first.

LEXINGTON, or Laxton, is a considerable village that once gave the title of Baron to the Suttons of Kelham. Its church is dedicated to St. Michael, and once had much armorial painting and carving, of the ancient families of Roos, Hastings, Grey, Longvillers, &c. These are now either mutilated or totally gone, partly through the unavoidable decay of time, but principally

cipally owing, according to Mr. Throsby's observation, thirty years ago, to the unpardonable neglect of those who ought to have preserved them from wanton destruction. He gives, in particular, a most horrid picture of the filth and nastiness of the north cemetery, the original burying place of the founders; but it is pleasing to observe that a great change for the better has since that taken place. Anciently there was a chauntry in the church; and it has evidently been a building of great ecclesiastical importance, having a spacious nave and two side aisles, with a large chancel, a lofty tower, and five bells. Amongst the old monuments were three of crusaders; but they are gone.

Fuller, in his Worthies, tells us, in his usual quaint style, that *William Chappell* was born here and bred a fellow in Christ's College in Cambridge, where he was remarkable for the strictness of his conversation. No one tutor in *our* memory, adds he, bred more and better pupils; so exact his care in their education. He was a most subtle disputant, equally excellent with the sword and the shield, to reply or answer.

He was chosen provost of Trinity College in Dublin; and afterwards bishop of Cork and Rosse. Frighted with the rebellion in Ireland (1641) he came over to England, where he rather exchanged, than eased, his condition, such the woefulness of our civil wars. He died anno 1649, and parted his estate almost equally betwixt his own kindred and distressed ministers; his charity not impairing his duty, and his duty not prejudicing his charity.

Ossington Hall lies a short distance south of Laxton, and is the modern built seat of John Denison, Esq. M. P. Here was an ancient house in the old style, with pointed roofs and clustered chimneys; it was indeed partly destroyed in the civil wars, about which time it belonged to the Cartwright family, afterwards to that of Cranmer, and since purchased by the late Mr Denison of Leeds, a gentleman said to have realized a fortune of three-fourths of a million, by the woollen trade.

trade. Thoroton gives a view of the ancient edifice, and calls it "a dwelling of more magnitude than splendour;" in the present one, however, elegance and comfort are united. The pleasure grounds are laid out in a good style, and the park is extensive.

The church is newly built, and contains a magnificent mausoleum to the memory of the late worthy proprietor.

Marnham lies on the east side of the great north road, near to the bank of Trent. Though but one village, it consists of two hamlets, and is a cheerful, pleasant, though retired, spot. William de Cawres "gave for his soul's health, and that of Agnes his wife, to God, St. Mary, and St. Cuthbert at Radford, and the brethren serving God there," (which he considered no doubt as the *firm* of his heavenly bank,) free passage for their servants and carriages in his ferry boat here!"

The church here was the property of the knights templars, upon whose extirpation it went to the knights hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem.

Here is a fair on the 12th of September for horses, horned cattle, swine, and merchandize.

At one period, the *Marnhams, Skegby*, and Fledborough, were considered as forming one village; but the latter we are told by an intelligent antiquary,* has been a much larger place than it now is. There have indeed been no antiquities ever discovered in the inclosures; but this he attributes to their consisting principally of grass lands, and not having been disturbed by the plough.

The church is a spacious edifice, and has once been adorned with much scriptural painting in the windows. Part of this consisted of the twelve apostles, with an article of the creed along with each; but time and neglect have made great ravages among them. The ancient raised monument in the choir, is traditionally

* Vide Pegge's Bib. Top. Britan. Vol. III. p. 486.

tionally said to be a memorial of one of the once flourishing family of Basset.

Dunham, or Dunholme, in this neighbourhood, has a fair on the 12th of August for cattle and merchandize. The tenants of this soc and manor have peculiar privileges; for being tenants of ancient demesne, "they ought to be quit of murder, pontage, and all other fines, to which the commonalty of the rest of the county are subject." This church is one of the prebends of Southwell, being given by Henry the first to Thurstan, archbishop of York, for that purpose.

East and *West Drayton*, *Lancham*, and *Stokeham*, are all comfortable villages, in this vicinity, but have nothing interesting to give them a place here: and in *Darleton* we have only occasion to mention a good house at Ragnall, lately inhabited by a branch of the Mellish family.

East Markham is a large and populous village, and may indeed be esteemed a country town; and is now in a state of further improvement, as its common lands are all in process of inclosure, and that upon a liberal scale of general convenience, the private roads being thirty feet in width, and public foot roads planned of six feet, so as to insure a free and easy communication. The church is a very pleasing edifice, with a lofty embattled tower; its nave and side aisles are good specimens of the Gothic, and its chancel is spacious. Here are several antique monuments; particularly one of Judge Markham as far back as 1409*. In the village is a good house belonging to the family of Cartwright. Amongst the various ancient religious benefactions in this place there was a curious grant by Avicia, wife of Jordan de Chevercourt, who gave to the monks at Blythe, a bovate of land "for a refection of the monks on the day of her

* The churchyard was formerly reckoned worth five pounds, on account of its size: if this was for profitable purposes, independent of clerical dues for sepulture, it was a large sum to be given for it, nearly a century ago, and shews that it must indeed have been extensive.

her anniversary, that by their intercession, her soul in heaven might have refection with celestial meat and drink, &c."

West Markham is a small village on the great north road, with a comfortable inn, used as a posting stage by the various public conveyances. It is very small, and has a very small church; but there is a very large moor which takes its name from it, partly cultivated, and now in a state of inclosing. At East Markham there is a School for twelve boys, and eight girls, who are all clothed: this is partly supported by private subscription, and partly by a bequest of ten pounds per annum for ever.

Sir John Markham, as upright a judge as ever sat on the bench, was a native of this place, and descended of a very ancient family. He was educated in the practice of the law, was knighted by Edward the fourth, and made Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench, in the room of Sir John Fortescue. "These," says Fuller in his Worthies, "I may call the two Chief Justices of the Chief Justices, for their singular integrity; for though one of them favoured the house of Lancaster, the other of York, in the titles to the crown, both of them favoured the house of justice, in matters betwixt party and party.

It happened that Sir Thomas Cooke, late Lord Mayor of London, one of vast wealth, was cast before hand at the court, (where the Lord Rivers and the rest of the queen's kindred had predevoured his estate,) and was only for formalities' sake to be condemned in Guildhall, by extraordinary commissioners in Oyer and Terminer, whereof Sir John Markham was not the meanest. The fact for which he was arraigned was for lending money to Margaret of Anjou: this he denied, and the single testimony of one Hawkins, tortured on the rack, was produced against him.

Judge Markham directed the jury (as it was his place, and no partiality in point of law to do,) to find it only misprision of treason, whereby Sir Thomas saved his lands, though heavily fined, and life, though long imprisoned. At this, king Edward

was

was so vexed, that Sir John was outed of his Chief Justiceship, and lived privately the remainder of his life."

Another anecdote is recorded of him, of a lady who, though against the will of her husband, "would traverse a suit of law, he being contented to buy his quiet by giving her her will therein, though otherways persuaded in his judgement the case would go against her. This lady, dwelling in the Shiretown, invited the judge to dinner, and (though thrifty enough of herself) treated him with a sumptuous entertainment. Dinner being done, and the cause being called, the judge gave it clearly against her; and when in passion, she vowed never to invite a judge again. Nay wife, said the husband, vow never to invite a *just* judge any more!"

Bevercotes makes a much greater appearance on the county map, than it does in reality, for it consists of not more than half a dozen houses; and its church, which fell down in 1650, is not likely ever to adopt "Resurgam" as its motto.

Haughton, once the abode of the Stanhopes, and afterwards of the ancestors of the present Newcastle family (Holles) is now in total decay. The house is entirely gone, and nothing remains but the chapel, now in ruins; but being built in the Gothic Style and embosomed in trees, it forms a pleasing though sombre object in the scenery. It never consisted of more than a nave and north cemetery, in which is the ancient burial vault of the Holleses which his present grace of Newcastle is preparing for the future sepulchral abode of himself and family; he also intends making some repairs in the chapel itself. Even the gravestones, at present, are in a state of ruin, and the monumental reliques are in a total state of mutilation and decay.

A paper mill still gives employment to the inhabitants of a few cottages; yet this place was once of sufficient consequence to give the title of Baron to the Earls of Clare of the name of Holles. An old MS. in the British Museum says, the house

was an *ancient* building with little uniformity in it, built at different periods, and its oldest part forming the entrance tower.

The history of this place affords a curious lesson to mankind. The Stanhopes sold it to Sir William Holles, an eminent merchant in the metropolis, and lord mayor in the reign of Henry the eighth, and his fortune so great as to enable him to bequeath a fortune of 10,000*l.* per annum to his eldest son. His hospitality was great; and he always begun his Christmas holidays at Hallow tide, and continued them to Candlemas, during which period any man was permitted to stay three days without being asked who he was, or whence he came. At all times, he never set down to dinner till *one o'clock*; and being asked why he always dined so late, his answer was, that for aught he knew, there might be a friend come twenty miles to dine with him, and he would be loth he should lose his labour.*

His son, dying before his father, never came to the family estate, (though it appears to have been *bequeathed* to him; but he lived at Irby in Lincolnshire, "where he was seen many times to confront Henry Clinton, Earl of Lincoln, who was a great tyrant amongst the gentry of that county, and carry business against him, as it were, in spite of his teeth," little thinking that, in a few generations, his blood and estates would centre in the family of that nobleman: and the grandson of Sir Thomas, eldest son of Sir William, losing both father and mother at an early age, "was exposed to the most wretched condition, till the Earl of Clare took notice of him."

The first Earl of Clare of the Holles family was born at Houghton in 1564, and improved so much under a private tutor that at thirteen years of age he was fit to be sent to Trinity College Cambridge; where at his first examination he displayed such genius and acquirements, that the master embraced him, and truly prophesied "this child if he lives will become a singular honour and ornament to his country." After a due course

* Topographer, Vol. I.

course of study he seems to have formed some idea of engaging in the legal possession, for he entered himself at Gray's Inn on leaving college; but having been introduced at court, and been appointed one of the gentlemen of the Band of Pensioners, he adopted pursuits more agreeable to his inclinations.

In that age of mottoes and madrigals, he chose for his posy "Qui inimicum timet, amicum non amat," and with great justice, for a brave heart is always the most generous and friendly; and the gallant spirit marked by this, he was soon enabled to indulge, having served in the Flemish wars, and also against the Turks.

On the attempt of the Spanish Armada against the liberties of his native country, he returned and distinguished himself much in its subsequent defeat, and he afterwards did considerable service in the suppression of the different rebellions in Ireland.

After the accession of James, he became obnoxious to the court, and (why we know not) was imprisoned; but after a very short confinement was released, and immediately called to the House of Peers, for which, however, he is said to have paid 10,000*l.* to Buckingham the favourite. His earldom of Clare was bestowed upon him in 1624, a dignity of which he was highly worthy: but which it is said he could not obtain without paying down 5000*l.* more. Though content to pay the bribe, he seems to have despised the receiver, and in the reign of Charles was one of his most violent enemies; but we must also allow him more honourable motives for his general conduct, as he stood forth, upon all occasions, the champion of the *just rights* of the people against the unconstitutional conduct of the then minister. Notwithstanding this, his heart was impressed with loyalty; but he lived not to see the degradation of the kingly office, or the overthrow of genuine liberty by the fanatic and revolutionary principles of the demagogues of that day, having died in 1637, at the venerable age of 73.

His second son, however, (Denzil Holles) also born at Haughton, took a more active part in revolutionary politics, so much so as to be in the list of members whom Charles so unadvisedly accused of high treason. He was born in 1597, and in 1627 came into the House of Commons; in which year he began to display his activity, being one of the persons who actually by force held the speaker in the chair, until the well known resolutions were read. The imperious conduct of Charles towards him in 1641 gave him a decided turn against the court party; yet he, though afterwards a Parliamentarian, was not only a steady opposer of the principles which took away his monarch's life, but was even obnoxious to Cromwell himself, for his resistance to his unconstitutional usurpations. He now saw the absurdity of a democratic government in such a country as England, and joined with ardour in the proceedings which brought about the Restoration; and so convinced was the second Charles of his loyalty and integrity, that he called him to the upper house, by the title of Lord Holles.

The other leading particulars of this noble family may be found in any of the peerages; we mention these personages as connected with the biography of the place.

Elkesley, near Haughton, has little worth noticing; but *Gamston*, or Gameston, is a considerable village, and great part of its population have long been employed in the manufacture of *Candlewick*. Like all other manufacturing places, it has a number of sectaries, of whom the Baptists are the most numerous. Its church has *once* been antique: but its brasses being all destroyed or stolen, and its monumental ornaments having *suffered beautifying* from the whitewash brushes of the Vandals in office a few years ago, there is nothing to interest the antiquary.

Proceeding along the north road we come to

RETFORD.

"Thence to Retford, fish I fed on,
And to th' adage, I had read on,
With carouses I did trim me,
That my fish might swim within me,
As they had done being living
And in the river nimbly diving."*

This cheerful and populous town, seated on the river *Idle*, has thence become extremely *busy*, particularly since the branch of the Chesterfield canal has been brought into its vicinity. Comfort, and even wealth, are displayed on all sides; and its open airy square, surrounded by good regular buildings, gives it an air of importance that few country towns of its size possess. Its name is supposed to have originated from an ancient ford over the river, at a place where the soil consisted of a reddish coloured clay, and of which a considerable quantity is still found in the vicinity.

Properly speaking, it consists of two towns and two parishes, *East* and *West* Retford, from their situations on each side of the river, and each of these are distinct in jurisdiction; but their extreme nearness makes them, for all local purposes, but as one, being united by a very substantial, and not inelegant bridge; we shall, however, consider them separately in order of description.

The church of *East Retford*, dedicated to St. Swithin, and called the Corporation church from its being within the borough, is a neat Gothic edifice, in high condition on the outside, but not so well in the interior. It has a handsome square tower with six well toned bells, and its nave and two side aisles are well lighted, and on a commodious plan. The chancel is but small; and, being rather dark, is disadvantageous to the appearance of its altarpiece, which represents the Last Supper of our Lord, and was given about a century ago by a gentleman resi-

* Drunken Barnaby's Journey.

dent in the town. Here are some sepulchral memorials, one of which is to the memory of Robert Sutton, Esq. who distinguished himself much by his benefactions to the town and to the church; he also left a share in the canal, for the benefit of the poor of East Retford.

This church is a vicarage, the rectory being in the cathedral of York, whose archbishop in 1258 allotted for the vicar's maintenance one hundred shillings of altarage, and the small tythes of pigs, geese, chickens, and the bread and wine, ale and beer, which should happen to be brought to the altar: but the tythes of the mills were to be given to the poor. Once a year also there is a visitation in this church.

Stowick Hospital was built some years ago by a person of that name for four men; but it was rebuilt in 1806 by the corporation, and is now a neat building of brick, simply imitative of the Gothic. The *Freeschool* endowed by Edward the sixth is near the church, and is, as it ought to be, plain and spacious. It has been rebuilt within these few years by the corporation, who have added good accommodations for the master and usher. Here is also an *Almshouse* for twelve poor women.

The TOWNHALL was built about fifty years ago, and is a plain, yet handsome, and commodious edifice; but it is to be regretted that it very inconveniently occupies a large space of the market place. Here are always held the sessions both for town and district; and beneath the large room, are *Shambles* extremely clean and convenient, reckoned indeed the best in the shire.

The *Market* is on Saturday, and is always well supplied, not only with articles of the usual kind, but with considerable quantities of hops in the season. The corporation have much improved the market, by giving up all the tolls; but their attempts to stop *regrating* have been inefficacious; and this must always be the case; for regulations which can be of any avail will operate against the fair dealer, whilst the illintentioned will break through them, trusting to chance and their own ingenuity, to avoid a discovery.

The

The *Fairs* are two in the year, on the 23d of March and 2nd of October, for horses and black cattle; there was formerly another at the feast of Trinity, but it has been some time discontinued.

The *Trade* of Retford, at the beginning of the last century, was much in barley for malting; but Worksop has taken away great part of it. Its *Manufactures* at present consist of *hats*, a mill for candlewick, and a paper mill; and there has long been a sailcloth manufactory established. The *Worsted mill*, attempted some years ago by Major Cartwright, no longer exists. We know not the reason of its failure: the plan was certainly both judicious and patriotic; but we are told that many individuals were ruined in consequence of its want of success.

In 1799, an *Agricultural Society* was formed here under the auspices of Colonel Eyre, the Marquis of Tichfield, (present Duke of Portland,) Viscount Newark, &c.; it has already bestowed many premiums, and has been of considerable advantage to the vicinity.

About a mile from the town is a well of extremely cold water, called *St. John's Well;* it was famous for many cures in the early part of the last century, but seems to have lost much of its notoriety. No attempt has been made to bring it into repute, though a probable consequent resort of company would be beneficial to the place; but this is perhaps owing to what we understand to be a circumscribed state of sociability in Retford; for though there are assemblies held at the Angel Inn during the winter, yet society is separated, and those who consider themselves as the first class are principally engaged in the amusements of their own domestic circles.

West Retford is very small, and has an ancient church dedicated to St. Michael, with a spire upon a square tower, and some old monumental stones, but none of antiquarian importance.

Dorrel's Hospital was founded in 1666 by John Dorrel, M. D. The original plan was for ten men, but the trustees

have added accommodations for six more. It is now a low and ancient looking edifice, in the centre, with two advanced wings of the same style; but there are two advanced fronts of modern erection in the *Mezzo Gothic*, done with some degree of taste, and the whole forming an interesting object in the outskirts of the village on the road by Babworth to Worksop. It now supports sixteen brethren, who have 10*l.* per annum each, with clothing, coals, &c. part of a garden each, an orchard for the whole; and, as they have honest trustees, they live in comfort under good rules. It is dedicated to the Holy Trinity; and the Subdean of Lincoln is always the master.

This village suffered considerably in the heavy flood which took place in 1795, and rose to the height of three feet in the market place. The torrent not only tore up the pavement in several places, but actually destroyed some houses. Since the Chesterfield canal was finished, West Retford has progressively flourished, and may now be reckoned a pleasant thriving place.

West Retford Hall is in its immediate vicinity, and is a seat of the Emerson family. An extensive lawn, watered by a gentle stream, and highly ornamented with thriving groups of trees and shrubs, lies before its principal front, and though lying on a flat, yet the home views are very pleasing, and may be considered extensive. It is a matter of great boast here, that his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales spoke highly of its situation in one of his journies from the north.

It may be interesting to those locally connected wth Retford, to trace its history in times comparatively recent; we therefore give the entry in the visitation of Sir Richard St. George, Norroy king of arms in 1614.*

"The town and borough of East Radford in the county of Nottingham is the Kingstown, and hath been an auncient borough as appeareth by an auncient grante made by Edward the second, who graunted the town in fee farm to the burgesses of the same, paying

* Harl. Coll. p. 1409. 3.

paying X. lib. II. and giving them power to choose bayliffs for the government of the said towne. Hen. 3 granted them a fayre. Edward 3 exempted them from all tolls and foreign servisses. Hen. 6 gave them a court of record to hold plea of action without imitation of same, and to execute the office of Escheator and clerke of the markett, with many other liberties.

"All which privileges have been from time to time confirmed by the several kinges and queenes of this land; and now lastly our Gracious Sovereign Lord, King James, in the fifth year of his reign did not only confirm all former grauntes made by his predecessors, but also incorporated it anew by the name of bayliffs and burgesses, and appointed the same to be governed by two bayliffs and likewise twelve aldermen to make a Common Council for the town; also they shall have a common seale, with power to alter it at their pleasure; and that the two bayliffs for the time being, and the learned steward, shall be justices of the peace and quorum, within the said borough.

"And at this present visitation (1614,) was Nicholas Watson, and Thomas Draper, Bayliffs; and those following aldermen, viz. William Thornton, Robert Wharton, John Jepson, Richard Elsham, Richard Parnell, Robert Stockham, William Bellamy, Francis Barker, Martin Taylor, William Bayley, Robert Hudson, and William Dickins: the Right Honourable Gilbert Earl of Shrewsbury, High Steward; Sir Richard Williamson, Knt. Learned Steward; Robert Brown, Town Clerke; and two Serjeants at Mace.

"This town hath two burgesses of the Parliament. Signed, Nicholas Watson—Thomas Draper—Robert Brown."

This corporation has long been in possession of much landed property; considerable part of which, consisting of hop plantations, is highly valuable. Formerly they had a power both of hanging and transporting at this place; but that unpleasant part of municipal jurisdiction has been removed for some years to the county town.

The elective franchise is in the bailiffs, aldermen, and freemen; the latter of whom are indefinite, and not obliged to be resident: the patrimonial right, however, inherited by the eldest son, must depend upon his local nativity. The modes of acquiring the freedom, independent of inheritance, are two; by servitude of seven year's apprenticeship to a freeman, actually within the limits of the borough; or by redemption, which is by the gift of the bailiffs and aldermen; these latter, however, at the time when they receive their freedom, must be inhabitant householders; yet, if they leave the place, on the following day, their rights remain unimpeachable.

Like all other small boroughs, this place had for many years been a scene of dissension, both from Parliamentary and municipal causes. With respect to the first, they have avoided Parliamentary interference between the corporation and the freemen, by a kind of tacit agreement by which each party is supposed to return a member; and with respect to the second, it has been settled by the Court of King's Bench, even so late as 1797, who decreed "that all bye laws shall be ipso facto invalid, which take upon them to enact matters which contradict or oppose the charter."

Like all other places, wealth and interest will always have their influence, and the Newcastle family have been supposed to be the principal favourites of the corporation; in 1797, however, this influence was opposed by Sir William Amcots, and Mr Petrie, which for some time made it an open borough. But at the election of 1806, General Crawford came in at the head of the poll, having 98 votes; his colleague, Mr. Hughan, polling 80; whilst the unsuccessful candidate, Sir John Ingleby, could not muster more than 69. The whole number of electors has been estimated at 150; but we believe that now there are rather more.

The freemen have been rather unfortunate in their attempts to *enfranchise* themselves; but this will always be the case, where the attempt is not made upon true independent principles.

plan. If representatives are always to be chosen either by the silent, but sure, influence of aristocracy, or by the clamour of a few discontented, or interested individuals, who, by fiery boasts of patriotism and flaming promises of reform, &c. either persuade or frighten the ignorant mass of the electors to choose the favourite of the day, then the cry of constitutional independence is but an empty sound; nor will it ever be any thing better, until the electors come to a resolution to reform themselves, and to be prompted in their choice by no principle but that of selecting men of sense, information, and honesty, and who at the same time have a stake in the welfare of the country at large, of more importance than mere temporary personal interest. In fact, until this is done, they will sometimes feel it difficult to find a *proper* person for their representative, when they honestly wish to repress undue influence; a truth, which we believe will not be denied; a truth, at least, of which we believe many instances could be produced. In short, according to the too frequent practice of borough oppositions at the present day, an honest moderate man is afraid to trust to a party led perhaps by a few hot headed individuals who, under the influence of a temporary spirit of patriotism, or of interested motives, are not always guided by cool resolution or by a just sense of their country's good.

Mr. Oldfield in his "History of Boroughs," mentions a disappointment, something of his kind, which took place at Retford, when the freemen offered their votes to Major Cartwright, who although he had established a manufactory which at that period employed upwards of 600 people, and of course was well qualified to be a representative burgess, yet he chose to decline it, however; and, though the author quoted has not told us the reason why, it may rationally be supposed that a fear of trusting too much to *popular* favour may have influenced that gentleman, in addition to other motives equally honourable.

There seems to have been some interruption in the elective franchise

franchise of this borough; for though they sent representatives to Parliament in the ninth year of Edward the second, yet their right lay dormant from that period until the 13th of queen Elizabeth.

The bailiffs are distinguished as *senior* and *junior*; the former always chosen from amongst the aldermen; and the latter from such freemen as have served the office of chamberlain.

In proceeding to investigate the *North eastern district* of the county, the tourist will keep for a short distance on the great north road towards Bawtry, and half a mile beyond the two mile stone, will find a cross road which leads him to SUTTON, a populous village on the right, the tower of whose small yet venerable church forms a directing object, pleasingly backed by the swelling hills towards Mattersy. The parish is called "Sutton cum Lound;" and *Lound* commonly called, though corruptly, "Lound in the Morning" is a hamlet near to it.

Blacow, or *Bacea Hill*, now presents itself, a gently rising eminence, topped with a very picturesque, indeed elegant, farm house and offices in the style of an Italian villa, and forming a most pleasing object in the landscape. This was erected by Jonathan Acklom, Esq. of Wiseton Hall; but is only one among many of his very patriotic and tasteful improvements in this neighbourhood. The plantations around it are laid out with great taste and judgement; so as to make it literally a *ferme ornée*. In this neighbourhood are the remains of many Danish and Saxon antiquities, but most of which are unfortunately in a great measure obliterated by the plough, and by paring and burning. *Bacca* is said to signify a burying ground, in the old Danish, which is fully exemplified by the circular range of barrows on the north front of the hill; some of them clumped with firs; and others nearly levelled. A very large tumulus is said to have been here not many years ago; this, however, is gone, but it is most likely that the hill has been both an encampment and a burying place. In the valley also, to the northward of it, are some slight vestiges of earthen mounds, which the tradition of

the

the vicinity refers to the same origin; and *Pusto Hill* is considered as another specimen of the warlike genius of our Danish invaders.

MATTERSEY next presents itself, a genteel, yet very retired village on a gentle rise, and having some very handsome mansions. It was the property of Earl Tosti before the Conquest; afterwards a family was here, who took their name, De Mattersey, or Maresey, but ended in an heiress Isabel married to Chauncy, who gave the village to the monks of the neighbouring Gilbertine Abbey founded by her ancestors. After those gentlemen got it, the prior had free warren, and there was also a market and fair. At the dissolution, the manor was granted to the Neville family whose heiress marrying Sir William Hickman, that family resided here in the early part of the last century: their house still remains, and is a genteel and comfortable residence of a private gentleman. The present lord of the manor is Jonathan Acklom, Esq. of Wiseton Hall.

Leland in his Itinerary says, "from Gainsborough over Trent ynto Notinghamshire, and so to Madersey village a V. miles, 2 miles be low medowes, and 3 be corn and pasture ground."

The church dedicated to All Saints, is a very handsome Gothic edifice, in excellent preservation, and is a most pleasing object in the village. It has some curious carvings which were discovered some years ago under the old pavement of the chancel floor, and of which Throsby has preserved an engraving: they are now placed against the south wall of the choir; but only one of them is *decypherable*, which appears to be the benevolent action of St. Martin dividing his cloak. In the reign of Edward the first, this church was appropriated to the priory, to make them amends for some losses they had sustained by fire. There was also here a chauntry dedicated to St. John the Baptist.

A handsome stone bridge over the river Idle is not only of great use, but also an ornament to the village, and forms an agreeable

agreeable object amidst the surrounding and overshadowing foliage.

About half a mile from the village are some small remains of the Gilbertine priory, dedicated to St. Helen, and founded for six canons by Roger Fitz Randolph de Maresey before 1192. At the dissolution it was valued at 60l.

A farm house now stands on its scite; part of its cloysters, some of the cells, and what appears to have been a corner of its church, still mark part of its boundaries; but these are going fast to decay, and are now occupied as carthouses, and filled with poultry roosts. Yet there is still enough left, though in detached masses, to form even a conspicuous part of a small Gothic residence, if its situation was to tempt a man of taste; but it stands low, and though the scenery around it is pleasingly retired, it has not any of those charms sought after by modern builders, whose primary object seems to be to see and be seen.

Crossing the Idle by Mattersey bridge, a pleasing rural road, shaded by extensive plantations, leads to *Drakelow*, the principal building in which, though it scarcely can be called a hamlet, is the Inn, which is not only comfortable and commodious, but forms a good object in the scenery both from its style of building and situation, being erected with that intention, by Mr. Acklom, whose long life seems to have been principally occupied in improving the country around him. This is also one of the depots for the Chesterfield and Trent canal which passes by here, through a tunnel, 250 yards in length, 15 feet high, and of the same width, of good workmanship, and in the cutting of which many coins of Constantine, and human bones, were found. There is no doubt but that this has been a Roman station; for here ran a Roman road, which, though nearly obliterated, has yet some faint traces, and was evidently connected with the neighbouring station of *Agelocum*, or Littleborough.

This canal pursues a winding course of two miles through Mr. Acklom's estate, and the turnpike road from Gainsborough

so Bawtry goes over it; these public routes of course have been attended with the usual inconvenience to the neighbouring grounds, but the worthy and judicious owner, by a well planned system of plantation, has remedied their inconvenience in a great measure, and indeed rendered them even beauties in some instances.

WISETON HALL stands nearly in the centre of the manor of which Mr. Acklom is sole proprietor, and is in Clayworth parish. It was originally the residence of the Nelthorpe family; but was purchased, nearly two centuries ago, by an ancestor of the Acklooms, an ancient Yorkshire family, often honoured with Knighthood in earlier times, when that title was conferred for important services to the state, and on those whose birth entitled them to it.

Very little of the ancient mansion remains; the present one, partly erected on it, forms a handsome elevation of a centre three story high, with two wings of one lofty story each: the whole light and airy, and accompanied by a very commodious range of offices. It was begun by the late Mr. Acklom, and finished in its present state by its now venerable owner; its situation, though not commanding, is yet highly pleasing, standing rather on a gentle swell, with a very extensive lawn of upwards of thirty acres in front, finely belted by trees and ornamental shrubs, and judiciously broken at intervals by well disposed picturesque clumps. Though its situation cannot be called a commanding one, yet the grounds contain most extensive prospects over the four surrounding shires of York, Lincoln, Notts, and Derby, and even into Cheshire when the weather is clear.

The whole of the interior arrangements are elegantly modern; and though it is by no means a *show house*, yet those whom the hospitality of its worthy owner admit to its friendly resort, will be gratified with some paintings, which are not the less valuable for being few in number. These consist of an original of Sir Robert Cecil; another of Henry the eighth; both by Holbein, the

the last *certainly* so; a curious piece of poultry by Barlow, a painter of such eminence as to have been engraved by Hollar; a piece of still life from the pencil of Caravaggio; another, artist unknown, but extremely well done; an ancient architectural piece; and two modern landscapes done with marble dust of different colours, both curious and elegant.

The whole manor is so well wooded as to appear one great ornamental plantation; and a well conducted walk round the home grounds is led for upwards of a mile in a circuitous route, so as to connect the exterior woods with the domestic scenery. That part which accompanies the canal is particularly pleasing, having a fine prospect of the well wooded eminences on the north and west sides. The canal too, which leads to Claworth, has been rendered a pleasing variety in domestic arrangement; there being a boat on it, which in fine weather carries the whole family to their parish church.

On all the surrounding eminences Mr. Acklom has judiciously placed his new built farm houses; these are not only ornamental to the grounds, and indeed to the whole estate, but have even proved an economical measure, notwithstanding their small extra expense; as houses built in an ornamental, yet plain strong style, are most easily kept in repair, the occupants being in some measure obliged to take more care of them, to keep them cleaner, and to have much less agricultural lumber about them, than is generally the case with an old farm house, and which not only stands in the way of trifling repairs, but in fact often renders them necessary.*

Everton parish, to the north west, contains the hamlet of *Scaftworth* holden of the see of York, to which Richard Acklom,

* "Jonathan Acklom, Esq. of Wiseton, on the inclosure of Wiseton, Mattersey, Everton, Misson, and Scrooby, pursued the plan of placing new farm houses central to their respective grounds, and completed seven with large appurtenances, dove cotes, granaries, cow-houses, &c. The same has been done more or less in other new inclosures."

Vide Lowe's Survey of Notts.

lom, Esq. the present proprietor, pays a quit rent, holding with it free warren in the archiepiscopal paramount manor of the soke of Southwell. During the inclosure of this manor several specimens of Roman antiquities have been found, particularly part of a spear, and some fragments of urns; a discovery which seems in some measure to settle the origin and chronology of some vestiges of fortifications, thence justly concluded to have been a Roman station.

In a small tongue of the county, running between York and Lincolnshire, stands *Finningley*, a large village, with a church dedicated to St. Oswald, but containing only some modern sepulchral memorials. Here is a school, which was first begun and maintained by the minister of the parish; but which, about a century ago, was so improved by the charitable contributions of the neighbouring gentry, as to clothe and educate eight boys.

This lordship was originally the property of the *Frobisher* family; of which was *Martin Frobisher* an enterprizing navigator, who was sent out by queen Elizabeth with three ships in 1567, in hopes of discovering a north-west passage to India. Having proceeded as far as Labrador, he was stopped by the approach of winter, but returned with a quantity of gold marcasite, or *pyrites aureus*, which tempted the members of the "Society for Promoting Discovery," to send out three other ships in 1577, under Frobisher's command. In this second voyage he discovered the Straight, now known by his name, but was again stopped by the ice; and having taken on board more of this glittering substance, then supposed to be gold, he returned to England.

Soon after this, queen Elizabeth determined to form a settlement in these countries, and a fleet of fifteen small vessels with men and necessaries was again sent out under Frobisher's command: but he could not get so far as he had gone in his preceding voyages; so that they soon after returned, and Frobisher seems to have given up all further attempts at discovery.

Misson lies to the southward of Finningley; it was anciently

called *Mime*, or *Mysses*, as is supposed from its intermixture with Lincolnshire, being, even at the present day, partly in the two counties. It seems to have followed the same descent as the lands in its vicinity; for it belonged first to the family of Maresey, then to the prior and monks of Matterney, and, after several other changes, is now vested in Richard Acklom, Esq. who is impropriator. It has long had the advantage of a water communication with the Trent, for, before the present canal was cut, the Idle was thus far navigable.

The scenery around it is of a very curious kind, consisting of a widely extended plain, level as the surface of a calm sea, and presenting to the spectator the idea of space unbounded, when seen from the neighbouring heights. In fact it is quite distinct and different from what is meant by a *plain* in the common acceptation of the word, or, as Mr. Gilpin has very judiciously described another appearance of the same nature, "the idea of this kind which such scenes as Salisbury plain suggest, is much less pure. The inequality of the ground there, sets bounds to the idea. It is the ocean in a storm; in which the idea of extension is greatly broken, and intercepted, by the turbulence of the waves—this gives us the idea of solid water, rather than of land, if we except only the colour,

> ——————interminable meads,
> And vast Savannahs, where the wandring eye
> Unfix'd, is in a verdant ocean lost."

This, like the plain he described,* is one of those extensive tracts from which the sea, in a course of ages, has retired. With the eye it seems impossible to fix its limits, for it ranges many miles in every direction, and softens at last into the azure distance of Yorkshire, whilst its foreshortening is partly marked by long lines of inclosure studded with villages, and dim discovered spires.

Misterton is in this vicinity; and has long been a considerable

*Burgh Marsh in Cumberland.

derable village, but much improved of late by the canal which passes close to it. It has a church dedicated to All Saints, and, though in what *has* been a retired situation, was remarkable for holding the places of assembly of other sects; for Throsby observes, "here are Catholic, Methodist, and Calvinist places of worship, whither, over some roads intolerably bad, the sectaries from the neighbouring villages resort."

STOCKWITH is a hamlet of Misterton; but, having the advantage of being situated at the junction of the canal with the Trent, it bids fair to become a flourishing place; in fact to become, like Stourport in Worcestershire, a new creation.

WALKERINGHAM, though a mile from the Trent, is so far connected with it as to have a ferry: it is a very considerable village, with a large church dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen; but the rectory being impropriate, the vicar has only a large parish and small profits. Though flat, yet the country around is pleasant from its populousness and cultivation.

OSWALDEBEC is in this neighbourhood, and is in such decay as to be undeserving of notice, were it not that it had given name originally to the hundred. Nor should we have thought it necessary to have named BECKINGHAM were it not that it is one of the prebends of Southwell, and is further remarkable as the place of nativity of Dr. Howell, who has been justly called the *laborious* author of the History of the World, and of some others, about the latter end of the seventeenth century.

GRINDLEY ON THE HILL, anciently "Greenalege," is very descriptively called so from its lofty situation on a hill overlooking the wide extent of *Misson Car* already described. On this spot there are several swelling mounds, which, were it not for their size, might be supposed artificial from their very bases: on them, however, have been thrown up three others in ancient times; a small one to the west of the church, and two large ones on its eastern side. These are evidently the remains of Saxon or Danish works; and the part, which is still called "the Parks," is traditionally recorded to have belonged to a Saxon Lord.

The village is extensive, though not very large with respect to its number of houses, which are mostly the residences of the farmers who hold the neighbouring lands. The church is a very handsome edifice, is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, and under this double guarantee seems to have been well taken care of, for it is well paved in the inside and kept very clean, whilst its pinnacled tower forms a fine object in the landscape. Throsby records a curious epitaph of an old lady, Winifrid Vernon, who is made to address the reader in a way which some wicked wits have interpreted very differently from the good lady's meaning. It is certainly whimsical, but its interpretation too gross to be permitted to sully our pages.

Upon the whole this place will afford amusement to three classes of tourists; to him who can play upon and laugh at a sepulchral joke upon aged maidenhood; to him who is pleased with extensive and curiously contrasted prospects; and to him who can feast upon antiquarian reflections; for these latter must rise rapidly in any man's mind who contemplates this spot, which, having lain out of the track of former antiquarian tourists, seems to offer a rich mine to those who will investigate it. Horsley and Stukeley seem both to have been so occupied with *Agelocum* in the vicinity, as to have almost entirely overlooked this place: but we have no doubt that an investigation, pursued upon the plan of that of the indefatigable Sir Richard Hoare on Salisbury plain, would amply repay any trouble or expense incurred, and perhaps throw considerable light upon the early history of this part of the kingdom.

Claworth is a pleasing little rural village on the banks of the canal; its church is strictly in unison with the place, and its Gothic tower, and almost darkened pointed windows, suit well with the gloom produced by the overhanging foliage. To him who would retire from society, without flying to a desart, Claworth offers an asylum, as his repose would never be disturbed except on the sabbath, when the neighbouring gentry assemble at divine service. The church is dedicated to St. Peter,

Peter, and contains several monuments of the Fitzwilliam and Acklom families; and the present venerable representative of the latter family has here placed a stone to the memory of a faithful servant, John Bottomley, who had lived in the family, and as steward, for 72 years; having lived with three generations, and seen the fifth; he died in 1773 at the age of 85.

Hayton is a very long, but no otherwise remarkable, village: nor is *Clarborough* deserving of particular notice, though a clean comfortable place, with some excellent houses: and at *Tithe*, a small hamlet, we have only to notice the probability of its having been formerly a place of some consequence, as many Roman antiquities, particularly a *stylus* and several agates and cornelians with inscriptions and engravings, have been dug up here some years ago.

North and *South Wheatley*, and *Saundby*, are principally inhabited by farmers, whose farms are occupied by dairies; and great quantities of butter are sent from their neighbourhood into the principal manufacturing towns of York and Lancashires.

Stretton is a village containing some good houses; its ancient church dedicated to St. Peter, with its light and airy pinnacled tower, is kept in very good order, and has some ancient monuments of the Thornhaughs and Hewetts, &c.

Littleborough, though now a small place, has employed the pens of most of our antiquaries with respect to its connection with the Itinerary of Antoninus. Camden expressly considered it as the *Agelocum* or *Segelocum* of that Itinerary, (for it is spelled both ways,) both on account of its standing on the military way, and of the great number of Roman imperial coins often dug up here, in his time, and then called swine pennies, from their being so near the surface of the ground as to be rooted up by those animals. It is true, indeed, that in his first edition of the "Britannia" in 1594, he had fixed this station at Idleton, or Eaton, *supposing* that in the transcription of names *Agelocum* had been written for *Adelocum*, and to this supposition he then trusted, without considering that the Agelocum

of Antoninus had a *ferry over the Trent*, and which is continued at Littleborough to this day, constituting perhaps the *oldest customary usage* in the empire, and that without let or interruption. Thoroton was of the same opinion with Camden respecting the fixing of the station at Eaton; but this he did from a comparison of the distances on the iter, and from a curious coincidence of the British and Roman names; for *Id*, in the British, signifies corn; therefore *Id* and *ton* may signify a "place of corn," bearing a strong resemblance to the Roman *Segelocum*. But if Camden in his early opinions forgot the ferry, so Thoroton seems to have jumped over a river, not recollecting that *Idleton* is the town on the *Idle*. It would indeed be an *idle* business to pursue these reveries any further; we may just observe, therefore, that Burton in his notes upon the Itinerary, places Agelocum or Segelocum, (for he shews that the Romans indiscriminately used, or omitted, the S) at Littleborough, in which he is followed by Stukely, who thinks, however, that Segelocum may have been a corruption of the original name in later times. His description of it at the early part of last century, is that it is a small village three miles above Gainsborough, just upon the edge of the water, and in an angle. *Agel-Auk* from *Frons Aquæ* he thinks a pertinent etymology; and adds that it seems only to have been environed by a single ditch, of a square form, with the water running quite round it; for to the west where Whitesbridge is, there is a watery valley which hems it in, so that it was a station of considerable strength. The church, as he observes, stands upon the highest ground; and the Trent had not only washed away part of the eastern side of the town, but foundations and pavements were then visible in the bank.

In 1684, when the inclosures between the bridge and town were first plowed up, many coins of Nerva, Trajan, Hadrian, Constantine, &c. were found, together with Intaglios of Agate, and Cornelian, the finest coloured urns and *pateræ*, some wrought in basso relievo, with the workman's name generally impressed on the inside of the bottom; also a *Discus*, or Quoit, with

with an emperor's head embossed on it. Again, in 1718, two very handsomely moulded altars were dug up, and then set up as piers in a wall on the side of the steps which led from the waterside to the inn. Stukely adds, that near White's bridge, he had seen extensive foundations of ancient buildings; and that in dry seasons, and when the tide was low, coins were then often found at low water mark.

To continue the chronological order of antiquarian research, it is necessary to mention that Horsley* decidedly says, "Segelocum and Agelocum, as called in two iters, is certainly Littleborough. Here Dr. Gale saw an urn which, besides ashes and bones, contained a coin of Domitian. The Roman station has been on the east side of the river, though the town stands on the west."

Pegge also,† gives a letter from Mr. Ella, vicar of Rampton near this place, in which he says that in 1701, ferrying over the Trent into Nottinghamshire, he observed in the opposite bank, washed away by the water, one of the Coralline coloured urns. It was, however, broken in pieces, but contained bones, and also a coin of Domitian. He does not think, however, that the principal station was on the east side, but says that the Romans seem to have had a *summer* camp on the *east* side of the river, though tillage had then destroyed all traces of it.

To such an host of observations and conjectures it is impossible for us to add any thing; except merely to say that the antiquary, though he will now find nothing to gratify curiosity at this spot, will still be able to tread, with reverential awe, that ground which is hallowed by the remembrance of past ages; and here may he contemplate the striking changes of political power, and of the exertions of man, and the instability of a fancied immortality, the names and actions of its once proud possessors having mouldered into oblivion like their decayed sepulchral dust.

Hablesthorp, or *Absthorpe*, has already been noticed whilst endeavouring

* Brit. Rom. p. 434.

† Bibl. Top. Brit. Vol. III. p. 126.

deavouring to ascertain the ancient name of Trent.* It is but a small hamlet, with some remnant of a chapel; but, not having been mentioned in the Norman survey, has been supposed not then to have had existence: if so, the conjectures founded on its name must fall to the ground.

Rampton near the Trent has been in possession of the maternal ancestors of the family of *Eyre*, ever since the Conquest. In the reign of Henry the eighth, a mansion house was built here, but pulled down about a century ago, nothing of it remaining except a very curious gateway highly ornamented in the style of that time. It has still some armorial bearings in pretty good preservation; and a good drawing of it may be seen in Throsby's Notts, where much of their modern descent may be found, both from the Babyngtons and from Lady Pakynton of Westwood House in Worcestershire, the pious authoress of the "Whole Duty of Man." Here is a very large church dedicated to All Saints, with a lofty tower; and in the chancel, and other parts of it, are many monumental memorials of Stanhope, Babyngton, Eyre, &c.

North Leverton is a large village with a commodious church; but we mention it particularly on account of a curious mode of dividing, and marking the divisions of the common lands, by a set of names applied to the twenty-eight parts of every division. The plan is certainly a regular one, and much praised by Mr. Throsby and his correspondent Mr. Shillitoe; but we conceive that every plowman must carry his *surveyor* with him to the field, as the ground is marked out almost to inches. Some of the names also are as curious as the mode of division, and shew some *genius* in their invention; these are, Cicely Oxgang, Doll in tenure, Mary Dole, Cockermeat, Poory Dole, Scutt, Rose, Wyemark, &c.

Its companion South Leverton is also an agreeable village with a neat church, and possessing a most extensive prospect over

* Vide page 28.

over Lincolnshire, from whence Lincoln Minster may be seen at a distance of twenty miles.

Grove is a small village, with a church dedicated to St. Helen, which has in the chancel some curious antique monumental stones of the *Hercy* family, formerly lords of the manor. The parsonage is a pleasing habitation, most liberally improved by a late incumbent. Being so near the line of the Roman road, the situation of Grove could not escape that warlike people, as fit for an exploratory station, and we may conclude that the moat on Castle Hill in this parish was occupied by them for military purposes, though it may originally have been a British work. But the greatest beauty of Grove, is Grove Hall, the seat of Anthony Hardolph Eyre, Esq. who now represents the county in conjunction with his son-in-law Lord Newark. It has a very commanding appearance when seen from the north road, being situated on a considerable elevation in the midst of a well wooded park. Of the ancient mansion built here by the family of Hercy, nothing has been removed except the front, which is now a modern one in a pleasing style of architecture; the other part of the house is certainly as old as Henry the eighth's reign, and has been an edifice of great elegance according to the style of that day.*

Headon was another old ancestorial mansion of the Eyre family, having come to them by a marriage with the heiress of Wastney: the house, however, built in the last century by the last baronet, has been some years pulled down, though the ancient park still remains. Many monuments of the Wastneys remain in the church, which is dedicated to St. Peter, and is on an extensive scale, having a nave and two side aisles; and it is a curious fact, that the impropriate rector of this parish must be a clergyman, although he has no cure of souls within it, that duty being performed by the vicar, who possesses only the small tythes.

Eaton,

* Much genealogical information respecting this ancient family may be seen in the Gents. Mag. for 1795.

Eaton, or *Idleton*, though now a small village, and only remarkable for being a prebend of Southwell, was a place of some consequence before the Norman Conquest; for here were *ten* manors, and ten thanes, each thane having a Hall: at the survey, however, they were reduced to one manor.

Ordsall lies a small distance to the left of the north road, and is worthy of notice for an agricultural fact recorded by Mr. Young in one of his tours, who observes that there had then been recently practised some very uncommon improvements by means of hops, particularly by Geo. Brown, Esq. of Ordsall, and —— Mason, Esq. of the same neighbourhood. The praiseworthy attempts of these gentlemen were on a black bog three feet deep, its spontaneous growth nothing but rushes, and let for but three shillings per acre: this was drained at a small expense by open cuts, and planted with hops in squares of six feet; and in this they succeeded so well as actually to clear 6*l.* per acre.

A fair instance of the practice and principles of puritanic times may be drawn from an act of the Rump Parliament in 1652, against the rector of this place, Dr. Marmaduke Moor; whose estate was forfeited for treason, and himself sequestrated from his living, for the heinous and *damnable* offence of playing cards, three several times, *with his own wife!!!*

Badworth Hall, the seat of the Hon. J. Bridgeman Simpson, is about a mile to the west of Retford, on the Worksop road. It is a plain comfortable white-fronted residence, having had considerable additions made to it by the present possessor. The pleasure grounds are in as good a style as the ground would admit of, and do great credit to the skill of Mr. Repton who laid them out: the plantations, having now acquired a considerable growth, assimilate well with the older woody scenery around, and serve much to embellish the open lawn, and well formed though small piece of water in the front.

The church, a neat Gothic building, stands a short distance from the hall, and is in very good order both within and without.

out. The tower supports a small steeple, and there are two young trees growing out of the roof of the south porch. It contains no ancient monuments, but there are some of a modern date of the Simpson family.

Near the church is the charming little sequestered residence of the Rev. Archdeacon Eyre, the rector, in which comfort and elegance are blended, and to whose worthy possessor, added to the kind patronage of the Bridgeman Simpson family, we understand the parish is much indebted for its internal prosperity. The whole population of Babworth is 310, the males being predominant; they have no *poor*, but ten outpensioners; a Sunday School is supported by about 25 individuals, costs only 7*l.* per annum, but has produced ten times that profit, by the improvement of morals!

After passing Babworth, the ground begins to rise, and the tourist finds himself within the limits of the green wood forest, whose enchanting scenery of woods, and lawns, and glades, and heaths, and cultivated farms, and ornamented seats, breaks in upon him like enchantment in every direction. Sometimes the road runs alongside of the Chesterfield canal busy with commerce, at others it sinks into the forest dells, and at length brings him to Osberton House, the elegant modern seat of Mr. Foljambe. The surrounding estate abounds with wood, which is annually increasing in richness of foliage by the growth of thriving plantations of oak, larch, and other useful timber trees. A rivulet which runs through the whole has been so extended in front of the house, and for some distance on each side, losing itself in the woods, as to appear like a river of considerable size. This effect, says the editor of the *Vitruvius Britannicus*, has been produced under the immediate direction of the owner, who possesses a degree of taste and judgement which is perhaps surpassed by few of those who have made it their study to display, to the greatest advantage, the beauties of nature, and to supply her defects by the exertions of art. The ground on which the house stands rises with a considerable

able degree of boldness on the south side of the river; but the views are more picturesque than extensive; and the scenery is tranquil and woody. The foreground, which is finely interspersed with the noblest oaks, elms, and beeches, both single and in groupes, is backed by extensive woods, some of which, amongst other timber, contain, in particular, spruce firs of the largest dimensions, beautifully feathered to the ground. The house itself has in front an elegant portico of four fluted Ionic pillars, supporting a highly ornamented architrave and pediment; and it has of late years received such additions, under the superintendance of Mr. Wilkes, the architect, as to have become a very convenient family residence, with extensive accommodations for the reception of visiting friends.

To the north of this, on the Great North Road, is *Barnby Moor* now inclosed, and which may be said to form a small hamlet, having some excellent houses, and a very large and comfortable inn, and posting house. Turning to the left over the moor, and proceeding down a sandy lane, we come to

BLYTHE,

which, rising on a gentle ascent, has a prepossessing appearance at a distance: the county around is well divided with hedgerows: and a broad opening leads into the town, or rather village, (for Throsby calls it a market town without a market,) from the ascent of which there is a fine view over the valley in which Lord Galway's seat at Serlby is situated. A topographer of the vicinity,* says it is a clean well built town, and formerly had a small weekly market on Wednesday; this, however, has for some time been in disuse, and the inhabitants go to Bawtry. We think, however, it can scarcely be called a town, even if it had a market; it is, merely, a large village with several very decent inns, and must have the credit of being clean and comfortable. After the Norman Conquest, Roger de

* Vide Miller's Doncaster.

de Busli had a castle here, and procured for it the title of an honour; but his chief residence being at Tickhill in Yorkshire, the honour of Blyth was dependent upon that manor. We are told that afterwards, this Roger "being of a pious and grateful disposition, with the consent of his wife Muriel did for the stability of William then king of England, (who had given him a full fourth part of this county, if not more, besides what he had given him in others) and of his successors, as also for the health of the soul of queen Maud, and their own, by the advice of their friends, erect a priory in this town, and by way of endowment gave and granted to God, St. Mary, and the *monks* there serving God, the church of Blythe, and the whole town entirely, with all the privileges and customs thereunto belonging."

This grant is said to have been confirmed by the first two Henries; and yet Madox asserts,* that an ancient feoffment had been made of the honour of Blythe; and also that in the reign of Henry the first, that honour was in the king's hand either by escheat or wardship, for the profits of it were accounted for to him; which position he proves by reference to the rolls of the honour.† Tanner, however, makes no mention of this in the Monasticon, but merely says that here was a priory of Benedictine monks, built by Roger de Builli and Muriel his wife, about 1068, to the honour of the blessed Virgin. It was in some respects subordinate to the abbey of the Holy Trinity of Mount St. Catharine at Rouen, in Normandy, and was at the dissolution worth 126*l.* per annum.

Here also was an hospital for a warden, three chaplains, and several leprous people, founded by William de Cressi, lord of Hodesac, and dedicated to St. John the Evangelist.

Of the state of this place after the dissolution, we are told by Leland in his Itinerary, that "from Rosington in Yorkshire to Blith, most by woody ground, part by corne, pasture and medowe, a 5 miles. There renne two Brookes as I cam into the

* Madox Baron. Angl. p. 28.

† Honor de Blide. Mag. Rot. Anni incerti R. Hen. I. Rot. 3. A.

the very towne of Blith. The first that I cam over was the greater, and cummith thither from the weste; the other renneth hard by the utter houses of the towne; and this as they told me was named Blith. And as I remember it is the very self water that cummith for Workensop, or els Workinsop water renneth into it. Both this waters mete together a little beneath Blith to ——— medowes, and goeth to Scroby Milles a 2 miles lower. Blith is but metely builded. At the east end of the towne is the church, wherein be noe tombes of noblemen. I asked of a castelle that I hard say was syntyme at Blith; but other aunswer I larnid not, but that a little or I cam ynto the town ther apperith yn a woodes sides token of an auncient building."

Fuller, who wrote some time after Leland, says, "there is in this county a small market town called Blithe, which John Norden will have so named from *jucunditate*, from the mirth and good fellowship of the inhabitants therein. If so, I desire that both the name and the thing may be extended all over the shire; as being confident that an ounce of mirth with the same degree of grace will serve God more, and more acceptably, than a pound of sorrow."

The church is dedicated to St. Martin, and is a capacious elegant Gothic structure, with a very handsome ancient tower; and at the east end facing the high road there is an elegant arch inserted in the wall, which must either have led to a former chancel, or perhaps have been the remains of some other religious building attached to the church. At present it is completely embowered in a shrubbery, has a very picturesque appearance, and seems a continuation of the ornamental paddock in which stands a large, though not very modern, residence, now occupied, or about to be so, by the Duchess Dowager of Newcastle.

The whole body of the church is of high antiquity, and in the interior it presents a noble nave with arches supported by lofty pillars, and interspersed with some very splendid monu-

ments of the Mellishes; and among others a memorial for a late individual of that family who built the mansion alluded to. This was evidently the priory church, as the remains of that ancient building are adjoining to it; of these, however, scarcely any thing is left, though it may be that a large house on the right hand going up, is founded on part of its scite.

Though the market is discontinued, there are two annual *Fairs*; one on Holy Thursday, for horse and black cattle; the other on the twentieth of October, for sheep and swine.

On passing through the town, the tourist cannot fail being much struck with the beauty of its vicinity, as a scene of ornamented cultivation bursts upon his view, superior to any thing *of the kind*, which the editor of these sheets has ever seen; the whole expanse of ground, for a considerable extent, seems a complete garden, embracing not only the grounds belonging to the mansion of the Mellishes, but also those of Serlby Hall, with all their lawns, winding walks, and shady groves. In fact the high road itself seems an ornamented walk, leading over a superb bridge, built of Roch Abbey Stone by the grandfather of the present possessor, for the convenience of crossing the extensive piece of water, formed on a most magnificent scale by damming up the river Idle and the little brook called Ryton which runs through these grounds.

When Mr. Young wrote his agricultural tour, the town of Blyth and the country round it, for several miles every way, belonged to William Mellish, Esq.* to which gentleman Blyth Hall is indebted for all its modern improvements, both for beauty and convenience. The additions and alterations have been so considerable, that we may say it has been *rebuilt* on the scite of the ancient hall; and it is now of considerable magnitude, being formed of brick, ornamented with stone.

The most elegant apartment is a magnificent drawing room, forty

* Joseph Mellish, Esq. married a sister of Mr. Gore, governor of the Hamburgh Company. He died in 1733, and was succeeded in the Blythe estate by his eldest son William, a commissioner of excise in 1751.

forty feet long, twenty-two broad, and eighteen in height, with a circular bow window of twenty-one feet span, so as to form a very agreeable proportion. The chimney piece is extremely elegant, consisting of Ionic pillars formed of Egyptian granite, fluted with stripes of white marble, and supporting the frieze in which is a tablet with an ancient sacrifice in bas relief. The furniture is appropriately rich, with the beauty of the apartment; and the chairs and carpet are of crimson velvet, embroidered with yellow silk. The view from this apartment, and from many of the others is extremely grand, looking over a fine piece of water, winding through the lawn for a mile and a half, and of the breadth of from fifty to seventy yards.

Speaking of Mr. Mellish's improvements, Mr. Young observes that he has executed undertakings, which shew an activity not to be surpassed. He made ten miles of road, at his own expense, and a river four miles long, and ten yards wide, as a drainage to a large extent of low land in the centre of his estate, capable of being made as fine meadow as any in England. He also built several farm houses, and above thirty cottages, all in the most substantial manner, of brick and tile; "works of the noblest tendency, that will always carry their own eulogy." He also built here a handsome and extensive pile of stabling; and ornamented the estate with upwards of two hundred acres of plantations which are now arrived at a thriving growth.

Serlby Hall, now the property and residence of Lord Viscount Galway, (not the Earl of *Galloway*, as asserted in a modern work,) was in early times the manor of *Alured* the Saxon; but at the Norman Conquest was given to Roger de Busli, of whom Gislebert his man held it. From the Busli family it came to that of Mowbray, and in the reign of king John, Roger de Mowbray, for what reason is not assigned, gave it to Maud de Moles, who married *Hugh*, a man very likely without a sirname, as he immediately adopted that of de Serlby. For many generations it remained in this family, until the last male, Anthony,

thony, in the beginning of the seventeenth century, being childless, left it to his wife, Gertrude, daughter of Ralph Leek of Hasland, Esq. for her own life and twenty-one years after. During this long interval of expectation, the male heir of the Serlby family was obliged to sell the reversion to Mr. Saunderson of Blyth; but the widow marrying Sir George Chaworth, that family also purchased a part of it; and from them it has come to the present possessor, to whose family it belonged as far back as the beginning of the last century, at which time there was a very old mansion standing on it.

The present building is of brick and stone, consisting of a centre of very handsome elevation, with two appropriate wings, having the offices in the underground story, and the stables and out offices on the eastern side. The situation is extremely agreeable; on the south front is a spacious lawn, beautifully interspersed with clumps of trees; whilst the north front has a charming prospect over some very luxuriant meadows, watered by the little river Ryton. The principal plantations are on the south west side, with many avenues and shady walks cut through them, opening to the most striking prospects in the vicinity. The terrace is a part of the grounds always very much admired, not only for its own beauty, but for the exquisite view which is seen from it. The interior of the house is both elegant and commodious, and when visited by the editor, was undergoing a complete repair, together with the outside.

There are many fine paintings in the various apartments; amongst which are two undoubted originals by Hans Holbein; one of these is in the dining room, and is a portrait of Henry the eighth on wood; the other is in the drawing room, and is a finely executed portrait of *Nicholas Kreatzer*, astronomer to that monarch.

The drawing room also contains a very large picture, being twelve feet two inches in height, and fifteen feet four in breadth, from the pencil of Daniel Myton. Its subject is Charles the first and his queen, with two horses, on one of which is a side

saddle, and some dogs, all as large as life. It also contains another figure as large as life, but who, of himself, would not have required such a breadth of canvas; this is Jeffery Hudson, the famous dwarf, who is in the act of striving to keep back two small dogs with collars on. This picture having come into the possession of queen Anne, was by her presented to *Addison*, from whom it came to the Arundels, of which family is its present noble possessor.

If the tourist crosses a bridge at the east end of the town, he will find a very pleasant road leading across an inclosed moor to

BAWTRY,

which being partly in this county, having its division marked by a small current of water in the yard of the Crown Inn, must be partly noticed.

Old Barnaby in pursuing his poetic drunken route, tells us.

> " Thence to Bawtree, as I came there,
> From the bushes near the lane there,
> Rush'd a *Tweake* in gesture flanting,
> With a leering eye and wanton;
> But my flesh I did subdue it,
> Fearing lest my purse should rue it."*

The traveller, however, may now visit Bawtry without incurring such danger, if he chooses, and he cannot fail of being struck with a very elegant mansion on the left, on entering the town, extremely pleasing in itself, and from its situation commanding the most charming prospect over Nottinghamshire. In mentioning this place, indeed, we fear that we have overstepped our limits; for the line of division of the two shires is here so very undulating, that an unguarded tourist may easily commit a trespass, and even in the middle of the high road may shake hands with a friend in the next county. We shall, therefore, just repeat that Bawtry is the market for Blyth and the vicinity, and is always extremely well supplied for its demand. Its

* " Sed inflexi carni pœnam,
Timens miserę Crumenam."
Vide Barnaby's Journey.

Its population by the last return is 421 males, and 497 females, amounting to a total of 918; but the particular description of its topography must be left for its own proper county.*

Near to this, to the left of the road from Blyth, is the village of *Harworth*, on the border of which parish, close to Bawtry, was an hospital founded by the Morton family, with a chapel in which was their sepulchral vault; but it is remarkable for nothing further, except a charity school for twelve boys, supported by voluntary subscription.

Returning from Bawtry towards Worksop, we come on the north road to Scroosy. This place was visited by that modern *Anacreon*, old Barnaby, whom we have so often quoted; but his fears seem here to have got the better of his curiosity, and prevented him from giving us any description of the village.

> "Thence to Scrubie, oh my maker!
> With a pastor, and a *Taker*,†
> Day I spent; I night divided,
> Thief did make me well provided:
> My poor scrip did cause me fear him,
> All night long I came not near him."

In a preceding note we have already given Leland's opinion that the rivulet close to this place once divided Notts from Yorkshire; to that opinion he adds, "from Scroby to Bawtre a mile or more. Ridinge a little beyond Scroby manor place, I passed by a forde over the ——— ryver; and so betwixt the pales of 2 parkes longging to Scroby, &c.;" but the line of division, since that, seems to have been altered.

Of the state of Scroby, when in its glory as an archiepiscopal residence, we have a good account from the same early tourist: he tells us "thence (Mattersey) I roode a myle yn lew wash and somewhat fenny ground, and a myle farther or more by higher ground, to Scroby in Notinghamshire. In the meane

* Leland says, "Bawtree is a very bare and poore market towne, standinge yn Yorkshire, as the inhabitants of it told me; so that by this it should seem that Scroby water in some part divideth the shires."

† *Latro* in the original.

tounclet of Scroby I marked 2 thinges, the paroche chirche not bigge, but very well builded ex lapide politi quadrato. The second was a great manor place standinge withyn a mote, and longging to the archbishop of York, builded yn to courtes, whereof the first is very ample, and all builded of tymbre, saving the front of the haule, that is of bricke, to the wych ascenditur per gradus lapidis. The ynner courte building, as far as I marked, was of tymber building, and was not in cumpace past the 4 parte of the utter courte."

The archbishops of York had free warren here as early as the 17th of Edward the second; and in queen Elizabeth's reign this palace was not only considered as excellent in itself, and more capacious than that at Southwell, but much more commodious for provision, having a large jurisdiction on the north side, consisting of very many towns thereabouts.* Even in the early part of the last century, the park still remained; but archbishop Sandys having caused it to be demised to his son Sir Samuel Sandys, the house afterwards became so much neglected that even then it had almost fallen to the ground. Nothing now remains but some small part incorporated into a farm house, marking the ancient abode of splendour and hospitality, and in the garden is an old mulberry tree, which tradition asserts was planted by the haughty Wolsey.

The village stands a short distance to the east of the great road, and merely contains a few farm houses, and the church, which once was handsome, but now decayed, and possessing nothing of its ancient grandeur except its lofty spire.

Scrooby Inn, a commodious posting house, stands about half a mile further on the road; after which we come to *Ranskill*, and also to *Torworth*, two hamlets in the parish of Blyth, principally supported by the great thoroughfare on the road.

Hodsack, a little to the Southward of Blythe had once a large house belonging to the Cliftons; there is still a curious brick gateway and a *lodge house*, the residence of Mr. Spencer.

At one period the greatest part of this parish had been given to

* Magna Britannia, Vol. IV.

to the church for religious uses; we shall therefore trace its history to serve as a fair specimen of the *meekness*, and *humility*, and *heavenly mindedness*, of the monastic brotherhood, who in their search after heaven took care to lay hold of the good things on this earth, by the way.

In Saxon times this was the manor of *Ulsi*; but Roger de Busli procured it from the Norman conqueror, and delivered it by feudal tenure to Turold de Lisuriis, in whose descendants it continued several generations. From them it descended by marriage to the Cressi family, as early as the reign of Richard the first, and remained with them until the time of Henry the fourth, when the coheiresses of Hugh de Cressi carried it to the families of Markham and Clifton, with whom it remained until the middle of last century, and is now become part of the Mellish estates.

During this period, at least previous to the Reformation, no less than five distinct grants of land were made to the church by the lords, and by their subtenants. The first in point of time was by Fulk de Lisuriis who gave to the monastery of Blyth four bovats of his own lands.

The second was from Ralph Cossard, who bestowed on the same brotherhood six acres of his own demesne in Corsard Thorpe, a hamlet of the parish. Roger de Cressi made the third grant to God, St. Mary, and the monks at Blythe, of the tythes of all his mills belonging to his manor here; for which these charitable and benevolent gentlemen agreed to say perpetually four masses per week for himself, his ancestors, and successors, living and dead! Some time after, in the reign of Richard the second, Hugh de Cressi, one of his successors, seems to have derived very little benefit from these weekly masses, for he is recorded to have been guilty of felony, for which, however, he procured a license to enable him to give seven messuages, and four bovats of land to three chaplains in the chapel of St. John the Evangelist near Blythe, as a fine for his crime; and no doubt these worthy chaplains would have given

him absolution for half a dozen felonies in addition to the former, provided he had paid beforehand. The last gift was that of the chapel which was given to Blythe monastery by the joint agreement of William de Cressi, and Thomas de Hodesack.

This, however, is but a small part of what was given in another part of the parish; for in the hamlet of *Hermeston*, William de Clarifagio, and Avice his wife, daughter and heiress of William de Tenais, in the 18th of Stephen, gave to the church of St. Cuthbert at Radford near Worksop, three bovats of land with the common, for the souls of the aforesaid William de Tenais, and Hugh Lovetot; and for the redemption of their own souls, and of all their parents and friends, as well living as dead. And because Hugh de Cressi, Lord of Hodsack, gave some uneasiness to the monks of Radford in the possession of these bovats, king Henry the second interfered, and ordered him to permit the holy brothers to enjoy them in peace, otherwise his steward of Tickhill, should tickle him to some purpose, and see justice done to these pious gentlemen, who were thus left in quiet possession of these lands, as well as of the hamlet of Holm also in this parish, which was given, with all things belonging to it, to the same monastery by Avice de Clarifagio, with consent of her husband.

From this single specimen of one solitary and not very extensive parish, we may judge of the temporal as well as spiritual influence possessed by those gentry, who by their vows were bound to poverty, but by their practice were in a fair way of getting possession of half the lands in the kingdom.

The town of

WORKSOP

stands on the borders of the forest, nearly in the midst of what was commonly called in the vicinity, "the Dukery," from the circumstance of there being no less than four principal seats of

of *Dukes*, within the compass of a few miles; since the death of the Duke of Kingston, however, there are now but three.

On the approach from Retford, the appearance of Worksop and Radford, lying in a valley, overtopped by the magnificent double tower of the church, and backed by swelling hills finely clothed with wood, is extremely striking. Its situation is indeed delightful, and nature has done much for it; and, as a modern tourist has observed, if art has not done so much for it, yet there are more noblemen's seats in its immediate vicinity, than any other spot in the kingdom so distant from London can boast of. We must observe, however, that we perceived no deficiency in the exertions of art; for the town is in general well built, and the streets very well paved; the inns are clean and comfortable; and much of the bustle of business enlivens it, from being on the post road to Sheffield and having the advantage of the Chesterfield canal, which runs close to the north end, and near to the little river Ryton. It consists, indeed, only of one long street, and of another leading to Radford; but both these contain good houses; and the whole place has an air of gentility not always to be seen in larger country towns.

Of its state three centuries ago we have a very good account from Leland, who says, in his Itinerary, "about a mile beyond Blith I passed by a park called Hodsak, where Master Clifton hath a fair house; and 2 miles farther much by hethy and then wooddy ground, I cam over a smaul broke with a litle stone bridge over it; and so strait into *Wirkensop*, a praty market of 2 streates and metely well builded.

"There is a fair park hard by it; and the begynnynges of a fair manor place of squared stone yn the same. The old castelle on a hille by the towne is clene down and scant knowe where it was.

"This toune, and castelle, and large parke longed first to the Lovetotts, then as sum say to one of the Nevilles. Then were the Furnivaulx of certente owners there; and after the Talbotes.

"The priorie of the black chanons there was a thing of grete building."

Though Leland says, that few knew where the castle stood, its scite may be ascertained even at the present day, at the west side of the town on a circular hill inclosed with a trench, except on one side where it has a steep bank overhanging the little river Ryton which thus formed a kind of natural defence: this, however, is all that remains, as there is not one stone left upon another.

Before the Norman conquest, this place was the property of *Elsi*, a Saxon Nobleman; but he was obliged to yield it to the favourite Roger de Busli, whose man Roger became his feudal tenant, and was succeeded by William de Lovetot. After many generations it passed by the marriage of an heiress Matilda de Lovetot, to the family of Furnival, and from them to the Nevills, and afterwards to the Talbots who first became, on that account, barons of Furnival, afterwards earls, and dukes, of Shrewsbury, though now extinct as a dukedom; but the earldom in a junior branch. Gilbert, the first earl of Shrewsbury, was a man of great military prowess, and became such a terror to France as to be extremely useful to Henry the fifth in his wars with that country. He became so much attached to Worksop as to build here an immense mansion house, with a magnificence in full accord with the splendour of his family; this, however, has unfortunately been burnt down, as we shall have occasion to detail more at large presently; and it is much to be regretted, as there is reason to believe that it was a complete antique specimen of old fashioned elegance. The Talbot estates being divided amongst coheiresses, this portion came to the Howards, Earls of Arundel, now Dukes of Norfolk; and is still held by them as tenants in chief of the crown, for the service of a knight's fee, with the privilege of procuring a glove for the king's right hand at his coronation, and of supporting that hand whilst he holds the sceptre.

But the modern glory of Worksop is its *Abbey Church*, which, however,

RADFORD GATE.
(at Worksop)
Nottinghamshire

London Published by Vernor, Hood & Sharpe, Poultry, June 1807.

however, stands in that part called Radford, and to which the stranger advances by a street of half a mile in length. The first object which particularly arrests his view is the ABBEY GATE, of which a plate is annexed. This is of the latest fashion of the Gothic mode of workmanship, with a pointed roof, and the arch flat; it has, some florid windows and niches of great beauty on the side next the street. The statues on each side of the gateway are gone, but there are still three over it; the gateway itself has a flat ceiling of oak, with Gothic groins as supporters; but this is nothing more than the floor of the room above, which had been long used as a school house, but is now in a ruinous state. The gate was double, with a wicket; and the whole, even now, is a pleasing specimen of ancient architecture.

This gateway led to the *Monastery* or *Priory*, which was founded by William de Lovetot, in the reign of Henry the first, for canons regular of St. Augustine, and dedicated to St. Mary and St. Cuthbert. The first grant, allowed by the concession and consideration of Emma his wife and of his children, consisted of the whole chapelry of his whole house, with the tythes and oblations; of the church of Worksop in which these canons were, with the lands and tythes, and all things belonging to the church, and the fishpond and mill near to the church, and a meadow adjoining to them; of the tythes of the pence of all his set rents, as well in Normandy as in England; of a carucate of land in the field of Worksop, and of a meadow called *Cratela*: of all the churches of his demesne in the honour of Blyth, with all the lands, tythes, and other things belonging to these churches; of the tythes of paunage, honey, venison, fish, fowl, malt, and mills, and all other things of which tythes were wont to be given.

This grant was confirmed by king Henry the first, and added to by Richard de Lovetot, who approved of his father's gifts, granting also his part of the church of Clarborough and two bovates of land. Cecilia de Lovetot gave the church of Dinesley in Hertfordshire also to this Monastery; but that grant was not valid until confirmed by pope Alexander the

third. Gerard de Furnival also, at the request of his wife Matilda de Lovetot, granted to this church and the canons there, for the health of his soul, and his wife's, their ancestors, and successors, pasture for forty head of cattle in the park at Worksop every year, from the close of Easter to the feast of St. Michael. The pious Matilda, however, was not satisfied with her husband's gift, but added to it a mark of yearly rent out of her mill at Worksop, to be paid on St. Luke's day when the monks were annually to celebrate the anniversary of her husband. Sir Gerard himself also bequeathed his body to be buried in this monastery,* and with it gave a third of his mills at Bradfield with the suit of the man of that soke.

Sir Gerard having been succeeded by his brother, Sir Thomas Furnival, the latter dying left a widow, Bertha, who for the health of her own and her husband's soul, and also for that of Sir Gerard, which doubtless she thought had not been sufficiently paid for, gave an additional four pounds of silver out of the same mills.

Many other benefactions were given, which were all confirmed by pope Alexander the third, and by successive pontiffs; until Henry the eighth, whether for the good of his own soul or not we will not pretend to say, thought proper to take them all into his own hands. It appears also from a bull of pope Alexander in 1161, that the canons had a power of appointing the priests for their own parish churches, "who were answerable to the bishop for the cure of the people's souls, and to the priory for the profit of their livings!"

Of the *Monastery*, but little is now remaining; but the Church still remains, a proud monument of ancient ecclesiastical magnificence. This, however, is but the west end of the priory church,

* This was always considered as a bequest of some value, as it brought large sums in shape of oblations, offerings, masses, requiems, &c. There have been many instances where the monks of one church have by force taken a rich man's body from the monks of another, in order to bring all the grist to their own mill!

church, yet has an august appearance from its two lofty towers which strike the eye of the beholder with an impression equal to those of Westminster Abbey. The style of architecture was originally Saxon; but on the outside is much mixed with the Gothic; and the whole is in the form, and nearly the size, of a cathedral.

The west entrance is very grand, consisting of a Saxon arch with zigzag ornaments; and the towers over it have Saxon, Anglo-Norman, and Gothic windows, in different gradations.

On the north side of the edifice are a few fragments of walls, close to the wall of the church, some of which have been converted into small dwelling houses; and in the meadows below it many traces of foundations have at various times been discovered. But the most splendid specimen of antique architecture is a ruinous chapel at the south east corner, now used as a burying place by the Froggatt family, and which is highly deserving the notice of the antiquary, as the windows, still in good preservation, are perhaps the most perfect model of the *lancet shape* now remaining in the kingdom.

The churchyard contains several old tombs; and one of the oldest is now before the door of the schoolmaster's house, being a freestone slab, which formerly covered the body of William Furnival, second in descent from Gerard, who came in with the Norman duke. It had a curious inscription, now almost obliterated; but said by Gough to be,

"Me memorans palle, simili curris quia calle,
De Fournivalle pro Willielmo roga Psalle."

On entering the church, the visitor is struck with the antique appearance of the body of it, which is 135 feet in length, and consists of a nave and two side aisles; the roof of the nave is supported by eight pillars, alternately cylindrical and octangular, joined by Saxon arches ornamented with quatrefoils. Over these are two alternate rows of windows, one over the arches, the other over the intervals above the respective pillars, and

these are of the latest origin. The pulpit is very judiciously taken care of, and is a very curious proof of the ingenuity of ancient workmen, and of the profusion of labour which they were content to bestow on what they considered as sacred things.*

The monuments are only remarkable for their antiquity. These

* The vastness of our ancient cathedrals and churches, and the laboured profusion of ornament, (interwoven as it may be said into their very grain and texture,) have been sources of wonder and admiration to succeeding ages. A little consideration, however, will dispel our wonder, but without diminishing our admiration, if we recollect that churches or chapels were not built then as now, either by act of Parliament, or for purposes of private emolument, and thus circumscribed in the one case by public, and in the other by private, economy; nor was it necessary that for the sake of economy they should be built in a hurry.

When an archbishop, or a fraternity of monks, or any other religious society, got a licence to build a church or cathedral, the state of manners and of property did not permit an immediate *subscription* of cash, or bank notes, for the purpose; but the projectors knew well that, by working on the religious hopes and fears of individuals, they should be able gradually to acquire funds for their sacred foundation. It was their interest, therefore, to adopt a plan which should require years, nay generations, to complete it, (some of these edifices having been two centuries in building,) by which means they were enabled to build annually as funds came in, nay even to add progressively to the landed property of the monastery; for when lands and tythes were given and bequeathed for the holy work, the monks, who were both treasurers and auditors, found themselves quite at liberty to apply such part of the bequests to that work, as was convenient for them. By the prolongation of the work also, they not only received immediate supplies, but established a kind of annual and perpetual tax on the enthusiasm, or contrition, of the rich, who sometimes added whole chapels, altars, towers, &c. &c. at their own expense, with a sum for masses tacked to them. Nay, they were even thus enabled to avail themselves of the industry of the poor without paying for it; for the mechanic, that was employed only half the year, would gladly give the other half of his labour, either to purchase pardon and indulgence in this world, or to compound for a short visit to purgatory in the next.

By the prolongation of the work, also, the monks left a valuable reversion to their successors; and thus every thing contributed to raise edifices unthought of in our present day.

These are principally of the families of Furnival and Lovetot; amongst the former of which, most of them lying in a neglected and mutilated state at the east end of the south aisle, there is a figure of a knight in a pointed helmet and frontlet, and gorget of mail; on his surcoat is a fesse between six martlets; his belt is studded; and under his head is a double cushion supported by angels. The slab on which he lies is bordered with foliage, and this, Gough in his Sepulchral Monuments considers as the fifth of the name of Furnival recorded by Dugdale about the time of Edward the third. In the "Monasticon" there is a rhyming genealogy of the family, in which this baron bold is called a

> ——— stern and right hasty man,
> "The hasty Fournivall, but he was good founder,
> To the place of Wyrksoppe in his time then."

which of course was a salvo for all the evils which his hastiness and stern impetuosity might inflict on his household and tenantry. In another part of the aisle are three large statues in a recumbent posture, two of them male and one female, which seem to have been brought from some other place, and are now lying on the ground, most luxuriantly ornamented with whitewash.

Gough particularly illustrates and describes* two alabaster figures, of a knight in a pointed helmet with a corolla round it, and a frontlet of oak leaves, plated armour, and a saltire with a martlet in the centre for difference on his surcoat: his belt studded; his elbow and kneepieces, trefoil pattern; a helmet under his head, with some beast's head for crest; and a lion at his feet: also at his right hand, a lady in the surbast reticulated headdress, slender face and neck, mantle and boddice, and plaited petticoat; and under her head a double cushion with angels. He adds, that the clerk who shewed him the monument in 1785 innocently told him that this was the tomb of "a vast great war-

* Sepul. Mon. Vol. I. p. 185.

warrior" and his wife, and that the *lion* at their feet was their lap dog; "he stood a yard high, but some graceless chaps broke off his legs."

The *Cicerone*, which the editor of these sheets had the luck to find here, seemed not more conversant with the antiquities of the place than his predecessor; he pointed to these monuments as "morals of Antikkity," and added with an air of connoisseurship, that these were "merable of the *Funnyfields* and *Lovecats*."

The fact is, however, that this last monument is that of Thomas Nevill, brother to Ralph first Earl of Westmoreland; he married Joan the heiress of these estates, and was treasurer of England.

The chapel of St. Peter, on the south side of the chancel, already noticed, where most of these memorials are now assembled, and now in a ruinous condition, was the burial place of the family.

Upon the whole, every antiquary, and indeed every person of taste, will find much to gratify curiosity in this place; and the solemn antiquity of this venerable ruin, for such it is in part, appears not the less from being contrasted with the cheerful gaiety of *Radford*, which, having some extensive malting houses and mills, possesses an air of comfortable plenty extremely agreeable.

The *Market* at Worksop, which serves both places, is held on Wednesday, and is always well supplied. Here also are two *Fairs;* on the 31st of March for cattle; and on the 25th of October, for horses, cattle, and pedlary: the great sale of liquorice is now at an end, that root being no longer cultivated here as formerly; and the fair also, which formerly was held on St. Walburg's day, the 21st of June, is now discontinued.

A considerable degree of trade has been brought to this place by the Chesterfield canal, which goes close by the north end of the town, and has in particular reduced the price of coals.

The whole population of Worksop and Radford, by the last Census,

Census, is 3602, consisting of 1763 males, and 1839 females; giving an increase, in eleven years, of 701.

Though there are no manufactures here to give employment, yet the general state of the *Poor* seems not so hard as in other places; the workhouse is on a small scale, and a system has for some time subsisted, of giving flax for spinning to the out-poor who chuse to be industrious. There are also many poor Catholics in the place, who we understand are much indebted to the bounty of the Howards, though the Duke of Norfolk does not often fix his residence at his neighbouring seat of

WORKSOP MANOR,

which stands in the centre of an extensive park, eight miles in circumference, and containing much fine timber, some of it so ancient as to be falling into decay. The park entrance, which is not half a mile from the town on the Mansfield road, is a light airy gateway, yet possessing an appearance of antique grandeur; and the tourist finds himself at the commencement of a long avenue deeply shaded by umbrageous oaks and other spreading trees. To the left, some fine lawns open at intervals, and he sees at some distance the *Castle farm*, an extensive range of agricultural buildings with a Gothic front, a battlemented parapet, and all its appendages in imitation of an ancient edifice, from whence it takes its name; it is surrounded by a large tract of cultivated ground, much of the park being under the farmer's hands. The park itself is naturally very fine, having an extensive range of hills within its limits, sufficiently high to bound the view from the house on one side, and magnificently covered with a series of woods, which overhang the landscape with a most charming effect. On the side next the farm, an abrupt swell rises in the boldest manner, tufted with wood, finely contrasting with the cultivated scenery below, and presenting

senting from its summit a most extensive prospect over the western part of the county.

The trees in this park, which once formed part of the forest of Sherwood, are in general upon a very large scale; there are some, mentioned too nearly a century ago by *Evelyn* in his "Sylva," which will bear two feet square of timber, at a height of forty feet, so that each will contain more than six solid tons of timber: and one tree in particular was 180 feet from the extreme ends of the opposite branches, covering more than half an acre of ground.

The avenue towards its end affords some casual glimpses of the house itself, which, on turning round a wood, bursts at once upon the view. A handsome gate now leads into the yard of offices, separated from the front lawn by an immense screen of light architecture with iron folding gates; and here a stranger will find it proper to apply for admission into the interior.

The house itself is not only justly celebrated for its beauty, but for the surprizing expedition which was used in its erection: and the visitor is struck with astonishment when told that what he sees is only the fifth part of the original design, so that, as Mr. Young in his tour very fairly observes, it would, if finished, be the largest house in England. It is, indeed, even now a masterpiece in architecture, and may be considered among the noblest mansions in England. Payne was the architect; but we understand that some of the most beautiful parts of the edifice must be attributed to the architectural skill of a former Duchess of Norfolk, who is said to have superintended its erection.

The ancient structure was burnt down in 1761 by an accidental fire, and it was estimated that the loss sustained in paintings, furniture, antique statues, (many of which were of the old Arundelian collection, and discovered in digging the foundations of some houses in the Strand in London,* on the scite of Arundel house) and in the library, must have amounted to upwards of 100,000*l*.

The

* On the discovery of these statues, Dr. Ducarel had some etchings taken of them; which we believe is all that now remains.

The then Duke, on this unfortunate event, began a new house on a most magnificent plan; and now the present building, which is only one side of an intended quadrangle, is not unfit for the residence even of majesty itself. This quadrangle and two interior courts would have completed the plan; but the execution of it was prevented by the sudden death of the heir! The front which is finished, of a handsome white freestone, is 318 feet in length, presenting a façade of lightness, beauty, elegance, and grandeur: in the centre, a portico makes a light projection, consisting of six very striking Corinthian pillars resting on the rustics, and supporting the tympanum and pediment, with all the grace of the *Antinous* added to the apparent vigour of *Hercules*.

Three handsome statues are placed upon the points of the pediment; and in its centre is an emblematical carving allusive to the high family alliances. A light and airy ballustrade crowns the edifice from the tympanum to the projecting part at the ends, which mark the terminations in the style of wings, and upon this are vases so gracefully placed that we cannot agree with Mr. Young in his opinion that the double ones at the corners are crowded; and further we acknowledge that "this front upon the whole is undoubtedly very beautiful; there is a noble simplicity in it which must please every eye, without raising any idea of want of ornaments."*

The front entrance is into a vestibule, with the staircase in front, and the grandest apartments to the left. In the general plan of the house, the present front, which is to the north, was designed for the back front, and here are ten rooms below and twelve above, with twenty-six in the attic story; on the south side are the two galleries, one used for breakfasting, the other as a billiard room; and we may premise generally that the furniture, portraits, and other decorations are all in the ancient style of magnificence, with hangings and beds of crimson damask and sky blue velvet, with the history of Joseph in Brussels tapestry,

* Vide Young's Agricultural Tour.

Indian scenery in Gobelin work, "and all the Howards, who frown along the deserted galleries, some in armour, some in whiskers, and those of a still later date in their large wigs and square shoes!"

We shall now examine the interior of this superb mansion in detail, and for the convenience of future tourists adopt that arrangement in which the apartments are generally shewn.

The *Breakfast Parlour*, is hung with handsome Chinese paper, and contains a very curious and well executed series of twenty ancient engravings, of views and charts illustrative of the defeat of the Spanish armada, by an ancestor of this noble family. These views have the great merit of being chronologically descriptive of that event; they are also embellished with portraits, and are upon the whole highly worthy of examination.

The FRONT HALL is of noble proportions, and contains two antique busts, of undoubted originality, but unknown; a buck of a foreign breed stuffed, this was a great favourite of the late duke, during its life; and a large coat of arms cut in wood as if for the purpose of using as a seal, though nearly two feet in height.

The *Staircase* is large, its area being 37 feet by 25; the iron rails are extremely light, and the whole has a handsome appearance. Its walls are generally supposed to be done *in fresco*, but they consist in fact of paintings in *Chiaro Scuro* by Thomas de Bruyn, a Fleming, and whose name is marked at one corner. The figures are in such high relief, or rather in such capital perspective, as actually to appear protruding from the canvas; and there is a boy's leg and foot in the large compartment which, perhaps, has never been exceeded. Their design is to represent the arts and sciences, and the light and shade are most happily tempered, whilst the attitudes and expression possess a degree of finish not generally seen in works on so large a scale: indeed they have all the softness of smaller paintings, with all the effect of high relief from the strong contrast always adopted in fresco and in scene painting. Amongst other pictures

tures of merit, there is an excellent one, size of life, of Lacy the player in three different characters.

In a *Bed Room*, 25 feet square, we are next shewn the bed on which his present Majesty was born at Norfolk House in London; it is a silk damask, and still in good preservation.

A *Dressing Room*, 22 by 25 feet, contains a number of good pictures; *Mary Queen of Scots*, when young, as if taken about the time when state policy, as well as personal liking, threw her into the arms of the dauphin of France: *St. John*, a most impressive figure; the *Nativity*, highly illustrative of the humble birth of the Saviour of mankind; the *Adoration*, evidently from the same pencil, though done with a greater glare of colouring; two heads of the *Buckingham* family, time of Elizabeth or James; two heads of *Catharine of Arragon*, forming a very curious contrast, one taken when she was only sixteen, the other at the age of forty, the latter sufficiently accounting for *Henry's scruples of conscience*; another *Nativity*, a sweet little piece; *Christ scourged;* in this the heavenly resignation, and even forgiveness, of the divine sufferer, are well pourtrayed. In this apartment the chairs and hangings are of white satin damasked with birds and flowers; and the elegant chimney piece of white marble, with an eagle pouncing on a twisted or apparently *twisting* snake, is highly deserving of notice. In a neighbouring dressing room is a picture of *Lord Thomas Howard*, father of that duke who built the house.

Another elegant little *Dressing Room* contains some charming pieces, the principal of which are, an impressive portrait of *Thomas Duke of Norfolk*, beheaded in the reign of queen Elizabeth, of whose grandson an anecdote is recorded that king Charles the first, having taken the part of a priest who pretended that his majesty had a right to a rectory which he, (then earl of Arundel,) challenged as his, he said to the king "Sir, this rectory was an appendant to a manour of mine, untill my grandfather unfortunately lost it with his life and seventeen lordships more, for the love he bore to your grandmother!" *Inside of a cathedral*, which seems a production of the Spanish

school and is an exquisite specimen of perspective; the lights in particular are well managed; *Earl and Countess of Arundel*, by Vandyke; in this piece the earl, who has a globe near him, is pointing to Madagascar, a place where he once had thoughts of making a settlement; the head of Homer is also introduced, copied from an undoubted original bust, afterwards purchased by Dr. Mead; from this a print has been engraved;* *Mrs. Brockholes*, sister to the present duke's mother; a portrait, an exquisite one, but unknown.

The *Blue Velvet Bed Room*, contains a most curious inlaid cabinet,

* Horace Walpole gives an excellent character of this patriotic nobleman. Living much within himself, but in all the state of the ancient nobility, his chief amusement was his collection, the very ruins of which are ornaments now to several principal cabinets. He was the first who professedly began to collect in this country, and led the way to prince Henry, king Charles, and the duke of Buckingham, "I cannot," says Peacham, in his Complete Gentleman, "but with much reverence mention the every way Right Honourable Thomas Howard, Lord High Marshall of England, as great for his noble patronage of arts and ancient learning, as for his high birth and place; to whose liberal charges and magnificence this angle of the world oweth the first sight of Greek and Roman statues, with whose admired presence he began to honour the galleries and gardens of Arundel House, about twenty years ago, and hath ever since continued to transplant Old Greece into England." This earl was not a mere selfish virtuoso; he was bountiful to men of talents, retaining some in his service, and liberal to all. He was one of the first who distinguished the genius of Inigo Jones; and was himself, says Lilly, the first who brought over the new way of building with brick in the city, greatly to the safety of the city, and the preservation of the wood of this nation. On his embassy to Vienna, he found *Hollar* at Prague, and brought him over.

Vide Walpole's Works, Vol. III. p. 205.

Another anecdote of this nobleman is recorded in the life of *Aretine*. That commentator having dedicated the second volume of his Letters to James the first, and receiving no reward, solicited one for five years. Hearing at last that the Earl of Arundel had orders to give him 500 crowns, and not immediately receiving them, he accused the Earl publicly of having converted them to his own use. The Earl ordered his servants to beat *Aretine*, which they did severely; after which the corrected libeller published that the Earl had no hand in beating him, went to him, begged the money, and received it.

cabinet, and two good portraits in *armour*, which, however, appearing of an older date than their *wigs*, we suspect the painter has committed an anachronism.

The *Dressing Room* belonging to this apartment, contains the *original* painting of the *School of Athens* over the fire place, in which the figures are certainly exquisitely proportioned, in well chosen attitudes, and the whole keeping masterly, yet notwithstanding the assertion of our conductress we suspect this to be only a copy, but certainly a good one. Here is also a high wrought Indian cabinet, ornamented with paintings of Chinese figures, each covered with glass; this is worth examination, and assimilates well with the rich satin damask hangings of the apartment.

In the next *Antichamber*, the pictures are but few, but they are excellent, particularly *Cain and Abel* by Vandyke; this is extremely dark originally, and seems more so through time, yet it cannot fail to strike the beholder with horror; nothing can be finer than the contrast between the meek, yet suppliant, resignation of Abel, and the anatomical exertion of his murderer; the *Transfiguration*, by Caracci; half length of *Charles the first* by Vandyke; and the *Dead Christ*, in which we know not what to admire the most, the meekness and resignation of the Virgin mother who is supporting the body, or the flexile manner in which it reposes on her lap; though evidently dead, yet the body of the Redeemer still bears the stamp of divinity; incorruptibility seems marked in every muscle; and an enthusiastic mind might conceive that it saw the vital spirits, which had left the extremities, collecting round the heart, as if preparing for a renewed and immortal circulation; in short, if this piece has a fault it is in its excellence, for it appears rather to represent that moment when approaching vivification began to shew itself, than the sombre hour which passed when it was first taken from the cross.

The *Lady's Dressing Room* is hung with Brussels tapestry, representing four of Raphael's Cartoons; these are *Paul and*

Barnabas at Lystra, the *Miraculous Draught of Fishes*, the *Death of Ananias*, and *Christ delivering the key to Peter*. A single figure of *St. Peter* over the fireplace is done with much spirit; there are also two fine Spanish paintings.

In the *Lady's Bed Chamber*, amongst many others, an elegant portrait of *Queen Henrietta Maria*, when young, cannot fail to attract attention; and the curious visitor will dedicate some time to the examination of *St. Jerome in the Desart*, with the usual accompaniments of the scull and lion, as in a piece of so little action, the expression is most wonderful, and the landscape in true perspective, a thing not always attended to by the most admired masters.

The *Gentleman's Dressing Room* is rich in paintings, although a number have been taken from this apartment, as well as from other parts of the house, for the ornamenting of Arundel castle. Here is one in particular, a very ancient head of *Christ*, which, if there were none other in the mansion, would fully repay a visit to Worksop; our Cicerone, however, could only say that it was an *original*, seeming to imply that it was *taken from the life!* but as our faith did not extend so far, knowing that St. Luke was the only painter of that time, and the specimen of his art shewn at Loretto not being quite equal to this, we were obliged to leave it like Priam's body at the destruction of Troy, not indeed "sine nomine *Corpus*," but sine *nomine* pictura. A charming nun next presents herself; this is *Miss Blount*, Lady Abbess at Antwerp, whose sweetness of countenance would make one regret that ever the walls of convents should have existed to shrowd such beauty from an admiring world, was it not recollected how many of our own blooming damsels pine in virgin sadness. Here are also, a *Madona*, placid and impressive; some tolerable landscapes; fruit and flower pieces; Henry sixth Duke of Norfolk; Master Clifford, about whom there is some story of his being to form an important matrimonial connection with the family, but dying before it was completed; a capital piece, in the style of Schneider, if not from his

his pencil, of a *Sportsman reposing*, with a spirited horse and game.

The *Library* at our visit was all in confusion, and contained little worth notice except a portrait of a *Roman Pontiff*, and two whole lengths of *James the second* and his *Queen*. Of James, it has been so much the fashion lately to speak, and to develope his motives, (these too asserted with such positive decision, or argued with such intricacy of syllogism,) that one is almost persuaded to disbelieve the facts recorded in history, and to worship the new light. But after all this ingenuity of disquisition, a little calm reflection will convince those who are not wilfully blind, that the writer came nearest the truth, who says that "a bigot, from his infancy, to the Romish religion, and to its hierarchy, he sacrificed every thing to establish them; and guided by the Jesuit *Peters* his confessor, and the infamous Jefferies, he violated every law enacted for the security of the Protestant religion; and flying from his throne, and his country, chose to live and die a bigot, or rather, as he supposed, a saint and martyr to the cause."*

In the next *Dressing Room* are *Mary, Duchess of Norfolk*, sister to Miss Blount the abbess; a good sea piece; and a family piece, possessing more spirit than these stiff and formal assemblages do in general, containing Master Howard who died heir to the title, two Miss Wests, and the late Lady Petre.

The *Duke's Bed Chamber* contains *Bishop Blaize* suffering martyrdom; he was bishop of Sebasta in Cappadocia in the second and third centuries, and suffered death under Dioclesian by decapitation, after being whipped and having his flesh torn with iron combs; he has long been a personage of great importance among the woollen manufacturers who consider him as their

* In introducing this historical remark, which certainly was considered as a just one, for a century at least after the abdication, it is not our wish, nor would it be consonant with what we hope may be esteemed our liberal and inoffensive plan, to encourage bigotry, or stimulate to intolerance on either side of the question; but if it is not true, it is natural to ask, "Why had we a revolution?"

patron saint, and carry him in all *processions*, as the inventor of their wool cards; this, however, must originally have arisen from the tortures antecedent to his martyrdom, which, instead of making him a friend to the trade, would we think have rather given him a distaste to woolcombing! Here is also a *fanciful* representation of the *Crucifixion*, with angels holding cups to receive the blood, but surely the plain historical facts attendant upon that awful scene are more impressive than those flights of a painter's imagination; where the body only suffered, it is futile to attempt even to *emblematise* the heavenly support afforded to the *divinity within*.

On descending the staircase, we are first shewn into the *Billiard Room*, a long gallery hung with Chinese paper, and fitted up for its ostensible purpose; here also are some *flowerpieces*, the *inside of a cathedral*, &c.

The *Back Hall* contains four very large pieces: these are *Joseph* interpreting Pharaoh's dream; *Joseph* in his coat of many colours relating his own dream, to his brethren; *Moses* found in the Nile; and *Moses* and the serpents; two antique busts, originals; and two modern ones, Charles the first, and Charles Louis Palatine of the Rhine.

A small *Dressing Room* on this floor has a very curious portrait of a *Duchess of Milan*, and another of *Henry sixth Duke of Norfolk*, whose resemblance seems to have been multiplied in the several apartments.

We now enter the *Small Drawing Room*, 36 feet by 30, and very elegantly furnished with crimson damask, and magnificent slabs of Sienna marble; it is also extremely rich in paintings, of which we shall only enumerate a few of the best. These are, *Mary Duchess of Norfolk; Edward Duke of Norfolk; Earl of Stafford*, beheaded in Charles's reign; *Philip Earl of Arundel;* the great *Earl of Arundel; Lady Alithea Talbot*, his countess; these two portraits, of these noble personages, are by Paul Vansomer, with the date 1618; the Earl is painted sitting, in a black costume, with the order of the garter hanging round his neck;

neck; he holds the Earl Marshals *Baton* in his hand, with which he points to several antiques: *Henry Howard,* the poetic *Earl of Surry,* when young; he was both a soldier and a poet; in his youth he became enamoured of the fair *Geraldine,* whom his sonnets have immortalized, and whilst making the tour of Italy, according to the chivalrous custom of those times, published a challenge against all comers, whether Christians or Saracens, in defence of her beauty, and was victorious in a tournament on that occasion, which induced the Grand Duke of Tuscany to wish to retain him at his court; but he determined to establish her fame in every city in Italy, from which romantic resolution, however, he was recalled by order of Henry the eighth, yet afterwards beheaded as a victim to the jealousy of that monarch, on Towerhill, in 1546; *Elizabeth Somerset,* daughter of the Marquis of Worcester, and consort of Henry sixth Duke of Norfolk; *Thomas Duke of Norfolk,* Lord Treasurer; a portrait of the poetic *Earl of Surry* more advanced in life, this is a whole length and is habited in an embroidered waistcoat and short breeches, a cloak on, a collar of the order of the garter, a garter on his leg, a short sword with a gold hilt, and a glove in his hand; *Henry Earl of Arundel; Lord Thomas Howard* father of a late duke; he lost his life at sea, whilst a young man, and is represented as shipwrecked; *Cardinal Howard; Lord Edmund Howard* who commanded the Van at the battle of Floddenfield; the *Earl of Effingham,* who was made Lord High Admiral at that critical juncture, when the Spaniards were sending their armada, invincible in their opinion, and to the assured conquest of this island; though not brought up to a sea life, yet both his conduct and his courage were conspicuously displayed in his various and reiterated attacks upon an enemy numerically superior; his coolness of temper was no doubt a great advantage to him, and likewise his magnanimity and prudence, both which prompted him to attend to the advice of *Drake* and the other experienced seamen, and to which, under heaven, this country was principally indebted for that

that signal defeat of an enemy buoyed up with fancied superiority, and stimulated by all the enthusiasm of religion, as if engaged in a crusade. Here is also a portrait, by Sir Joshua, of the *Duke* preceding the late one, but it is even more faded than those of an earlier date.

The *Large Drawing Room* is 53 feet by 30, and is hung with most beatiful Gobelin tapestry, which, as has been justly observed, for colours of an amazing brilliancy, and an exquisite imitation of nature, is above all praise. Even the finest tints of painting are most happily caught, and the representations of *Asia and America* personified, with their various attributes and productions, are appropriate in the extreme. Here are also two large *flowerpieces*, and two fine slabs of Sienna marble; the elegant chimney piece is of the same substance; and the pier and chimney glasses are superbly magnificent.

The *Dining Room* is 42 feet by 38, and contains two *landscapes and banditti* by D'Arthus; *Dido and Eneas* from an Italian pencil; San Roque,* on pilgrimage, and his dog bringing him a loaf, in which the dog is admirable in the extreme, but the glare produced by an extraordinary diffusion of the lights draws off the attention from the principal figure; and makes it look rather like a sketch, than a *finished* piece, which it undoubtedly is.

An *Anti Room*, 25 feet square, brings us again to the long gallery; it has a handsome chimney piece of white marble, with a painting over it in fresco, done by *Bruyn* who painted the staircase; in this, if possible, the perspective deception is even finer than that of the larger work.

The *Chapel* possesses a gloom suitable to such a holy place; the altar is highly gilt; the altarpiece, a most splendid work of the *Resurrection*. On the altar also is a large crucifix of exquisite workmanship, and highly gilt; this, by a very liberal arrangement of his grace, is permitted to remain in compliment to several Catholics in the neighbourhood, who knowing that this

* Query, San *Rogue*?

this chapel was originally consecrated according to the ritual of their church, are happy to avail themselves of it as a place of assembly to offer up their prayer and praise to the God of all. As an additional proof of his grace's liberality and benevolence, we understand that many of those who measure their humble steps to this retired temple, are the old retainers and *protegés* of this illustrious family. This is as it should be; this is the true spirit of tolerant Protestantism, which never can injure any cause, and whose consequences must be pleasing in the sight of heaven, *religion* being thus far divested of *political* considerations! On the various sides are hung several other paintings as assistants and stimulants to devotion; these are the *Presentation*, the *Descent from the Cross*, and a *Dead Christ*, with several others that cannot fail to excite the warmest and most contrite devotion in minds prepared for it.

After viewing the interior of this superb mansion, the visitor is naturally anxious to examine the *Gardens*, which, indeed, cannot be supposed equal to their state when the family principally resided here; as specimens of the antique style, however, they are not undeserving of curiosity. The flower-garden is near to the house, and contains a large and handsome greenhouse, which still boasts a variety of exotics: the bowling green also is a very extensive one, surrounded by some very fine larches feathered to the very ground; but the pleasure ground has lost one of its greatest curiosities, a *menagery* which the duchess, antecedent to the late one, had filled with a numerous collection of birds. The fruit garden too was laid out in considerable taste having a great number both of hothouses and hot walls; but these, though still taken care of, have nothing particular to excite enquiry.

Much of the beauty of the home grounds too is gone, partly from want of attention, and partly from the landscape gardening in the park being broken in upon by the return of a great part of it to its agricultural state. When Mr. Arthur Young visited this mansion in 1770, everything was then in high perfection, and his account

account of it served at least to tell us what it once was. Yet it is a pleasing, though melancholy, task, even now to trace his description, and to reflect on the various changes that have taken place since those who first laid it out were in high health and spirits. The beauty of the outlines still remains, and it is impossible not to be pleased with the artificial piece of water, which has all the boldness of a river, assimilates well with the surrounding scenery, and is partly seen to great advantage from a Gothic bench placed in a shady and now sequestered spot, the dark green foliage of the impending wood contrasting the clear expanse below. Immediately opposite to this bench, the banks are rocky and abruptly broken; and soon spreading themselves, they open and display an extensive sheet of the water which is seen at some distance to recede into a very deep and dark wood, retiring beneath the arches of an elegant bridge, and thus giving an idea of continuity to that which is soon after terminated. The contrast of the dark brown overarching foliage with the pure whiteness of the bridge, is very grand, particularly when made more apparent by the blaze of the noontide ray. Winding through a thick wood to the left, the water is again caught close to the bottom of an extensive lawn, at one end of which a gentle swell is crowned with a Tuscan temple that forms a fine object from whatever direction it is seen, and also in offering the visitor a resting place, points out to his view a charming prospect of part of the lake. From this spot there are a variety of walks to different parts of the grounds; one of these leads to the bridge close to which is the termination of the water, now more hidden than when Mr. Young visited the place, but which ought to have been moved more into the recesses of the wood, or might have been concealed by the omission of the path to the bridge, as that edifice from this spot seems absurdly superfluous. The ground rises into gentle swells after crossing the bridge, and is prettily tufted with trees and shrubs, and this is perhaps the most pleasing part of the grounds, as the light of day can scarcely break in, whilst the silence is only disturbed,

nay

nay it may be said is more distinctly marked, by the trickling of a small rivulet in the bosom of the verdant foliage. We cannot leave this spot without copying Mr. Young's observation, "that this shrubbery will amuse any person whose taste leads them to admire the soft touches of nature's pencil, scenes of the beautiful unmixed with the sublime." But the admirer of nature in all her wildness, may still be highly gratified by a ramble through the park, to which he is led by a road passing to the southward from the house: this walk extends upwards of two miles, the scenery being partly diversified by cultivation, and also by the irregularity of the ground most judiciously planted; in one part there is some fine forest scenery with elms of an extraordinary size, planted on mounds of earth that seem evidently to have been ancient barrows, yet have not been described, nor even mentioned, by that indefatigable antiquary Major Rooke. An extensive common, or rather *waste*, overrun with fern presents itself to view, across which we proceed to a lane that leads to the park of

WELBECK ABBEY,

the residence of his Grace the Duke of Portland. This was originally the freehold of Sweyn the Saxon before the Conquest, after which it was divided into several manors, of which Joceus de Flemang obtained a third part of a knight's fee; and upon the death of an old Saxon *Drenghe*, or knight, named Gamelbere, who held two carucates of land of the king in capite by the service of shoeing his majesty's palfrey upon all four, and died without heirs, Richard, son of Joceus, obtained these lands, doing the like service, and became Lord of Cukeney, in which parish Welbeck stands. Thomas de Cukeney his son, was both a statesman and a warrior; he built a castle at Cukeney, and founded the *Abbey of Welbeck*, for Præmonstratensian canons from Newhouse in Leicestershire; beginning it in the reign of Stephen, and completing it in that of Henry the

second. He dedicated it to St. James, and gave it along with some extensive grants of land to those monks in free and perpetual alms, for his own, father's, mother's, and ancestor's souls, "and theirs, from whom he had unjustly taken any goods." After this, many troubled consciences bestowed numerous benefactions on this abbey, which had previously been confirmed by a royal grant of Henry the second.

In the reign of Edward the third, John Hotham, Bishop of Ely, in 1329, bought the whole of the manor of Cukeney, and settled it upon the abbey, on condition of their finding eight canons who should enjoy the good things, and pray for Edward the third and his queen, their children and ancestors, &c.; also for the bishop's father and mother, brother, &c. "but especially for the health of the said Lord Bishop whilst he lived, and after his death for his soul, and for all theirs that had faithfully served him, or done him any good," to which was added this extraordinary injunction, that they should observe his *anniversary*, and on their days, of commemorating the dead "should absolve his soul *by name*," a process whose frequent *repetition* might naturally be considered as needless, unless the pious bishop supposed that he might perhaps commit a few additional sins whilst in purgatory.

At the dissolution it was granted in the usual manner to trustees, for secular purposes, and its then state may be partly inferred from Leland's description. "From Wirkensope I roode a longe by the pale that environneth the great wood called Roome wood, by the space of 2 miles and more, and then I passed over a little bridge under the which renneth Wilebeke water. Wile hath 2 hedde springes, whereof the one riseth not very far above Wilebek Abbey. The bigger riseth far of by west, and about Wilebek cum to one botom. The abbey of Wilebek is about half a mile on the righte hand above the aforesaid bridge. One Waulley hath bought this wood of the king; it longgid as I hard to Wirkinsop priory."

From Whalley the original grantee it came to Sir Charles Cavendish,

Cavendish, youngest son of the celebrated Countess of Shrewsbury, by her marriage with Sir William. He marrying the heiress of Lord Ogle, his son succeeded to that barony, and became afterwards Duke of Newcastle; this was the noble duke the author of the famous Treatise on Horsemanship, and the builder of the large riding house here, of which we shall have occasion to make further mention. Though the duke was very active during the civil wars on the side of Charles, yet this seat and park escaped the fury of the Parliamentarians; in other respects, however, he suffered to the amount of nearly one million sterling. His grand-daughter and heiress, Margaret, married John Hollis, afterwards created Duke of Newcastle; but she left only a daughter who inherited the estates, and marrying the Earl of Oxford, another heiress, the only issue of this union, carried it to the ancestor of the present noble proprietor.

The park is about eight miles round, and powerfully excites the attention of the visitor in his approach to the house, as it contains several noble woods of very ancient and venerable oaks, many of which are of an extraordinary size; we shall, however, only enumerate a few of them.

The *Greendale Oak* is considered by Major Rooke as being upwards of 700 years old. In Evelyn's time it* was 33 feet in circumference at the bottom; the breadth of the boughs was 88 feet, covering a space equal to 676 square yards. It is now almost in a state of decay, being propped in several places: in some parts capped with lead to protect it from the wet; in others, secured by iron bars in order to hold its limbs together; and only one solitary branch evincing any marks of vegetation. A coach road, ten feet three inches in height, has been cut through it in 1724, whose width in the middle is six feet three inches, and the present circumference above the arch is 35 feet three inches. Yet it never contained any great quantity of timber; at least, not equal to that of some other trees in this park

* Vide Evelyn's "Silva."

park which have been estimated at upwards of seven or eight hundred solid feet.

The *Duke's Walking Stick* is in height to the top, 111 feet six inches; its solid contents four hundred and forty feet, and its weight eleven tons: in short, as Major Rooke observes, it may be doubted whether this admirable tree can be matched in the kingdom.

The *Two Porters* have received their name from there having once been a gate between them; their respective heights are 98 and 88 feet; and their circumference 38 and 34.

In another part of the park, near the gate which goes in from Worksop, is that very remarkable production of vegetable nature, called the *Seven Sisters*, from its consisting of seven stems springing from one root in a perpendicular direction; but one of which has unfortunately been lately broken off. Their height is 88 feet; the circumference of the common trunk close to the ground is 30 feet. Near this is a hollow tree, in circumference 20 feet nine inches, supposed to be 300 years old; and this is often used by the game keeper as a place of concealment from whence he can unobserved take aim at the deer.

That part of the park which is seen in the vicinity of the house, and in which the plantations are upon a very large scale, has been rendered ornamental, and contains a very fine piece of water, occupying a winding valley, meandering through the dark foliage of the surrounding woods, and whose bottom being boggy was dug out by order of the late duke, and being made the receptacle for all the drainage, is now completely floated. This charming lake is a great embellishment to the grounds, being of a considerable length and breadth, and winding with the most natural effect in an easy but bold line at the foot of several small promontories shaded with planting, and presenting the most picturesque prospects at every turn.

The late duke made many considerable alterations and improvements, independent of this piece of water; but he was rather unlucky in one proposed embellishment, for having erected

erected a most elegant, nay magnificent, bridge of three arches, the centre one of which was ninety feet in span, and the side ones seventy-five each, it fell down just as it was finished, and when its fine effect was so nobly and completely displayed as to add considerably to the loss in other respects.

In the *Rein Deer Park*, on the west side of the lake, there is a beautiful grove of large majestic oaks, which are supposed to have braved the tempests upwards of six centuries.*

It has been justly said that few noblemen planted more than his late Grace of Portland; and none with greater success; and his very judicious mode of procedure may be seen at large in the Survey of the County by Mr. Lowe p. 57: at the period of whose writing, the uncultivated lands which had been improved by that lamented, departed, nobleman, within the space of twenty-five years, amounted to nearly two thousand five hundred acres; of which number, about seven hundred contain plantations.

Respecting the house itself, there have been a sufficient number of opinions to warrant the old adage of "many men, &c." Throsby observes, that it has been much enlarged, but is on no regular plan; yet appears in different points of view, on a scale large and magnificent. He adds, that very little remains of the old abbey except the cellar arches; which arches are said by Mr. Bray to be the *only* remains. In these opinions we should have coincided, from a strict examination of the outside walls; but on enquiry, we were informed that many of the walls of the interior are of the ancient building, and that in some of the apartments, even the sepulchral monuments fixed in these walls are not destroyed, but only hid by the wainscot pannels and other hangings. What is seen, however, is of comparative modern erection being begun in 1604, yet it has towers, turrets, some small battlements, and some ballustrades, which altogether give it an impressive air of antiquity, though by no means assimilating with our ideas of an ancient abbey. We

 cannot

* Vide Bray's Tour to the Midland counties.

cannot agree with a recent periodical writer,* that it is *shabby without*, but shall allow that it has every appearance of being the seat of elegance and hospitality *within*. Those which are called the new apartments are very spacious; but with the exception of additions, no great alteration has taken place since its first erection, though the late duke fitted up all the principal rooms in their present state.

The *Equestrian* duke of Newcastle built a most magnificent Riding House here in 1693, and finished the stables in 1625, under the direction of John Smithson, an ingenious architect: it seems, however, that his immediate successors did not keep up his favourite *hobby*, as it was for some time permitted to go to decay, but is again restored to its original use; and the great stable is now one of the finest in the kingdom, (with the exception of the royal establishment at Brighton,) being 130 feet long by 40 broad, and containing 40 stalls, the outside being finished in what may be called, not the *modern*, but the *moderate* style of Gothic. Thoroton speaking of that duke to whom we have alluded, says "though he is so great a master of horsemanship that though he be above eighty years of age, he very constantly diverts himself with it, still, insomuch that he is thought to have taken as much pleasure in beholding his great store of choice well managed horses, (wherewith his fine stables are continually furnished) appear to exercise their gifts in his magnificent Riding House, which he long since built there of brick, as in older times any could take to see the religious performances of monks in the quire of the great church of St. James, now utterly vanished, except the chapel for the house was one part of it, which of late years also hath lain buried in the ruins of its roof."

Having thus examined the outside of this mansion, we shall now proceed to its interior, and enter the *Hall*, which is very capacious. On one side is a

Small Dressing Room which contains several small portraits of the

* In the Monthly Magazine.

the present noble family; here are also, *St. Jerome* in the desart; *King William* the third; his *Queen Mary;* four Dutch Candle light pieces by *Schalcken,** remarkably well done; a set of small paintings of *Tarquin and Lucretia, Hercules and Omphale, Jupiter and Semele, Friar and Nuns,* all done in enamel under glass, and being rather in the style of *Facetiæ!* Here are also small bronzes of horses, &c. particularly a most curious group of a man on horseback, with a lion, &c.; these are real antiques. We now ascend the

STAIRCASE,

which has a handsome Gothic cieling, with Gothic doors &c. to the various rooms. This leads to the

Small Saloon which contains the following portraits, curious to the enquirer into British history; *Elizabeth Hardwick* of Hardwick in Derbyshire, Countess of Shrewsbury; a portrait, three-quarter length, in Chancellor's robes; Lady *Jane Cavendish,* eldest daughter of William Duke of Newcastle; she married Charles Cheney, Esq. of Chesham Bois, and actually kept garrison at Welbeck, against the Parliament forces; *Lady Catharine Darnley,* natural daughter of James the second by Catharine Sedley; she was Baroness of Darlington, and married first James Earl of Anglesey, secondly James Sheffield,

* Walpole observes that *Godfrey Schalcken* was a great master of tricks in the art, or the mob could decide on merit. He was born at Dort, and soon began to display his genius; but his chief practice was to paint candle-lights. He placed the object and a candle in a dark room; and looking through a small hole, painted by day light what he saw in the dark chamber. Sometimes he did portraits in that manner, and came to England with that view; but found the business too much engrossed by Kneller and others. Yet he once drew king William; but as the piece was to be by candle-light, he gave his majesty the candle to hold, till the tallow run down his fingers. As if to justify this illbreeding, he drew his own picture in the same situation. Delicacy was no part of his character. Having drawn a lady who was marked with the small pox, but had handsome hands, she asked him, when the face was finished, if she must not sit for her hands? "No, replied the boor, I always draw them from my house maid!"

Duke of Normanby and Buckingham, by whom she was mother of the last duke of that title; her figure in waxwork is one of those shewn at Westminster Abbey; *Henry Cavendish*, Lord Ogle, who married Lady Elizabeth Percy, daughter of Josceline last Earl of Northumberland; *same lady*, who married secondly Charles Seymour, Duke of Somerset;* *Charles Cavendish*, Lord Mansfield; *Lady Harriet Cavendish*, daughter of the Duke of Newcastle, married to Lord Harley, afterwards Earl of Oxford; a curious head, resembling *Martin Luther*, but our Cicerone having no list and not being a connoisseur, it was with difficulty that the names of any of the portraits could be obtained except those which had them painted either on the frames or the canvas. Here are also some very handsome enamels of the *Resurrection*, the *Magdalen*, *Christ and the woman of Samaria*, &c.

The *Drawing Room* contains some very superb French plate glass; and is elegantly filled up with plain pink walls, and light gilding.

The *Breakfast Room* has a good likeness of *Archbishop Laud* in lawn sleeves, with short hair; *a late Duke* and one of his brothers; a small one of *the late Duke* when young; *Miss Canning* niece to the present duchess.

The *Dining Room* is 59 feet by 36, and has an elegant coved cieling. The portraits consist of, *Matthew Prior*, that eminent poet, so justly celebrated for the easy humour and elegant taste of his writings; he was son of a joiner in the city of London, yet became secretary to the English embassy in the Congress at the Hague in 1690, and a gentleman of the king's bedchamber, &c. being first noticed by the Earl of Dorset and others, for his classical attainments at Westminster School, whilst living

* She was first wife of this proverbially *proud duke* of Somerset. After her death, he married a second wife; but even with these companions of his bed and bosom he seems to have avoided all familiarity, for one evening, when alone, the second duchess having in a graceful matronly manner thrown her arm round his neck, he frowned and exclaimed, "Madam! that is a *liberty* my first wife never took, and *she was a Percy!*"

ing with his uncle, a vintner at Charing Cross: this accounts for his professed contempt of genealogy in the well known epitaph written by himself;* *William Cavendish,* Duke of Newcastle, the active and loyal friend of the unhappy Charles; his costume is a vest of black with slashed sleeves, and an immense lace ruff; his sword is gold hilted, the garter is on his leg, and there are roses in his shoes; portrait of an ancient baron with a lady and two children, very like the unfortunate Earl of Strafford; the *Earl of Strafford,* a whole length, by Vandyke; *Sir Hugh Middleton,* has grey hair cut short, a moderate sized ruff, and turned up lace ruffles; he was a public spirited man, and a very great benefactor to the city of London, by planning and completing the New River; but like all other projectors he greatly impaired his fortune by this work, though it repaid him in part before his death; he was first knighted, and next created a baronet, by king James the first; it appears by the Gen's Mag. Vol. p. 947, that his great, great, great, grand children are now living near Exeter, with large families but not the greatest share of this world's goods.

The *Library* is 44 feet by 30; its cieling is in the florid Gothic, and its chimneypiece in the same style; in short its whole fitting up in pannels, windows, &c. &c. is an elegant modern imitation of that style of architecture. At one end is a very handsome painting of an angel contemplating a crucifix surrounded by a divine glory.

The *Vestibule* contains a view of the race ground at Newmarket, together with portraits of favourite horses, dogs, and other animals.

The visitor is next conducted to a *Dressing Room,* which though it cannot be called superb, or even elegant, is yet extremely curious from the number of inlaid and other cabinets, and the profusion of fancy pieces which adorn its walls.

* "Lo! here good reader, by your leave,
Beneath this stone, lies Matthew Prior;
The son of Adam and of Eve,
Can Bourbon or Nassau go higher?"

Her Grace's Dressing Room is a very pleasing apartment, and contains some curious specimens. Here is a model of an *Antique head* by Schiavonetti; a small figure of *Charles the first* on horseback, copied from Vandyke, and the horse done by Wootton; the *Old Roman* supping on turnips, and refusing the bribes of the ambassadors of Persius; *Date Obolum Belisario;* two *Italian Landscapes* by P. Laura; a *Saint* fed by angels; a most curious ancient painting of a lady; Dutch Boors; small original of *Edward the sixth,* in crimson and gold; whole length of *Queen Elizabeth* by Lucas de Heere, on horseback; in the back ground, a view of the old mansion at Wanstead; *Spanish Gypsey* singing to the Guitar; a fine head, apparently of the Spanish school.

The *Small Dressing Room* is merely mentioned as possessing a portrait, (but that is a jewel) of *Gertrude Pierpoint,* younger daughter of the Hon. William Pierpoint; she married George Saville, Marquis of Halifax.

The *Chapel* has a very comfortable gallery opening from this floor: below it is fitted up like a country church, with Gothic windows in leaden diamond squares, or lozenges, &c.

Upon the whole, though, with the exception of the library, there is nothing extraordinarily superb; yet still we must allow this mansion to be neatly elegant, without either gaudiness or profusion.

The next ramble, which the inquisitive tourist will undertake, is to

CLUMBER PARK,

the elegant residence of his *Grace of Newcastle.* Proceeding along the Mansfield road, a picturesque scene presents itself cut through the rocks, amidst overhanging woods which add much to the wildness of the scenery; but the country soon opens into a wide and half uncultivated tract, soon after which the roads divide, the turn to the left leading to Ollerton and, at a distance

a distance of two miles from Worksop, presenting an uncouth path, through heavy sands, that leads to the park gate, a modern erection of handsome stone work with an old lodge. On entering this, a splendid scene presents itself, and following the track, the visitor finds himself almost in a desart, amongst woods, rough lawns, rising grounds, and small hills broken into steep cliffs, crowned with planting and feathered even to their bases. Amidst this sylvan scene, some marks of rude cultivation accompany him for two miles, when the mansion bursts at once upon his view; but standing rather low, it does not at first make an impression equal to the ideas with which the mind is filled from the approach. Yet its front of white stone, brought a distance of five miles from a quarry on the estate, has an air of magnificence; and the whole mass of building, including the very spacious court of offices to the left, forms a fine contrast with the rising hill beyond it, and with the large piece of water occupying the extended bosom of a winding vale, and terminated by an elegant bridge of white stone in a most superb style of architecture.

In contemplating the scenery around, we must not forget that this park, now eleven miles in compass, was not many years ago a large extent of wild forest land, through which the public roads still lead with the usual direction posts. Mr. Young who visited it in its infancy, for it is entirely a new creation of the late duke's, observes that his Grace was then planting on so large a scale, and reducing such a quantity of the *king land* to profitable grass, that the place in a few years would not be known; and he adds, that the extent of the new plantations was then so great as to promise to be not only an ornament to all the country, but a sourse of immense profit to the family. Mr. Lowe also, in his Agricultural Survey, tells us that it contains about 4000 acres, yet not half a century ago it was little more than a black heath full of rabbits, having a narrow river running through it, with a small boggy close or two; but now "besides a magnificent mansion and noble lake and river with extensive

plantations, about 2000 acres are brought into a regular and excellent course of tillage, maintaining at the same time between three and four thousand sheep, and all in his Grace's occupation." This was fifteen years ago, and great improvements both in planting and in cultivation are still going on under the auspices of the present noble proprietor. Even at the period when Mr. Young wrote, the then duke had the largest farm yard in the county; our researches, indeed, into this part of the economy were not so minute as those of that intelligent traveller, we shall therefore observe on his authority that even the "Hog houses are very convenient, in emptying the wash, grains, &c. directly out of the cisterns through the wall into the troughs." In this park also are the remains of two woods of venerable old oaks, one of which gives name to the place, being called *Clumber Wood*, the other is Hardwick wood; and Mr. Lowe adds, that since they have been shut in from cattle, the young trees are springing up surprisingly, from the acorns. When Mr. Lowe wrote, the whole of these plantations, within the park, amounted to one thousand eight hundred and forty eight acres.*

With respect to the *House* itself, so much has been said in its praise, that it is difficult to find novel terms in which to express its elegance. It has been said that it embraces magnificence and comfort more than any other nobleman's mansion in England; that every thing reflects the highest credit on the taste displayed in the accommodations and ornaments found in this delightful retreat; and that in this princely abode the *writer* of romance, (and why not the *reader* also?) might enrich his fancy, and the poet imagine himself wandering through an enchanted palace.

This

* Vide Lowe's Survey p. 58. "In the extensive enclosures made by his Grace in Elkesley, Bothamsell, &c. the quick hedges, which are remarkably fine, were raised with posts and rails, the thinnings of those plantations. I was assured, some years since, that sixty miles running measure had been done in this manner; and by this time it must amount to double that number."

This truly magnificent mansion consists of three fronts; and in the centre of that which faces the lake, there is a very light Ionic colonade which has a pleasing effect, and particularly so in that harmonious whole which is best seen from the lofty bridge over the extensive piece of water.

The *Entrance Hall* is very lofty and supported by pillars. It contains a very large picture of Clumber by Wheatley, with the present Duke's grandfather and some friends setting out on a shooting party; this, however, is a view of the old house, which has been considerably altered and added to by his late Grace, this picture also has portraits of favourite dogs; two paintings of sieges with reconnoitring parties; an elegant marble medallion of *Dolphin and Tritons* exquisitely executed; a marble table inlaid with landscapes; another tesselated; their frames highly wrought, and richly gilt; here are also some antique busts, originals.

A lofty stone *Staircase* next presents itself; with a very handsome iron railing, "curiously wrought and gilt in the shape of crowns with tassils hanging down between them from cords twisted in knots and festoons." It is adorned with, the *Kiteat* club and Dr. Meausobre giving lectures, by Doddridge; a marble model of the Laocoon groupe, exquisitely finished; two elegant marble vases; small painting of *Apollo and the Hours preceded by Aurora*, and exhibiting thus at one view the different effects of the morning's dawn on *land* and *sea*, each accurately defined and charmingly contrasted. On the upper part of this staircase are some *Roman sepulchral monuments* in good preservation.

The *Library* is a large, square, lofty, room, well lighted, and containing a splendid and well chosen collection of English, foreign, and classical literature. The only painting it possesses is over the fireplace, a very fine copy by Kent, from Raphael's *School of Athens*. From this apartment there is a charming prospect, in all directions, of the lake and pleasure grounds.

The *Small Library* contains a portrait as old as 1560, of a Countess

Countess of Lincoln, daughter of the Earl of Kildare, in a rich antique costume, very curious; many family pictures, consisting of the late Lord Lincoln, a whole length by Hoare; the late duke's father and mother; the present duke's father and mother; the late duke, &c.; and a handsome drawing of a cross in the ancient chapel at Haughton park near Tuxford, now in ruins, but which the present duke is fitting up in order to form a sepulchral abode for future generations.

The *Dukes' Study* has an antique portrait of the first *Earl of Clare* of the present family's ancestors; *Edward Earl of Lincoln* by Holbein; *Thomas Duke of Newcastle*; *Mr. Henry Pelham*, in his gown as Chancellor of the Exchequer; his daughter *Miss Pelham*, grandmother of the present duke; *Sir Henry Clinton*, Commander in Chief of the British army, during part of the American contest; a very remarkable small original of *Henry the eighth*, more thoughtful in expression than his usual portraits; also two small, but well done landscapes by a young artist, Binge of Tickhill, patronized by his Grace.

The *Duke and Duchesses' Bedroom* was formerly a study, but in the present alteration of the house, is fitting up for the above purpose. Of its old furniture, it still contains an immense vellum pedigree of the family, not an inappropriate ornament; two whole lengths of George the second and queen Caroline; and a very interesting portrait of Mary Queen of Scots, evidently done towards the close of her chequered and unhappy life; she is in mourning, with slashed sleeves, &c.

The *Common Dining Room* contains an exquisite *Madona and Child with St. John* by Battoni; two fine flower pieces by Van Noss; two by Teniers, one of cardplayers with the date 1661, the other a large landscape of a brickfield, &c. but done in a cold style very unlike the other works of that master; a large *battle piece* well done; first *Earl of Lincoln*; two views of Venice, by Canaletti; two cattle pieces by Rosa de Tivoli; small landscape by Claude Lorraine; a wild landscape by

by Salvator Rosa; two fine heads by Rubens; and the *Prodigal Son* by Domenichino.

The *Small Drawing Room* has a large and very fine picture by Teniers; some well done female heads in crayons by Hoare; and a fine piece of game by Rubens; but its greatest ornament is the *portrait of an Orator* by Rembrandt. Here also, amongst a variety of other exquisite specimens, is the famous piece by Corregio of *Sigismunda weeping over the heart of Tancred.* To describe this exquisite specimen of the power of the pencil, is far beyond our talents; the expression is even more than imagination would have expected: and the *silent* tear, for silent it is in comparison with the features, is done with such a degree of truth that one expects to see it fall. This celebrated picture was once the property of Sir Luke Schaub, and though *said* to be painted by Corregio, is thought by Horace Walpole to have been probably a production of Furino. The same noble author adds that it is impossible to see the picture, or to read Dryden's inimitable tale, and not feel that the same soul animated both. Hogarth from a contempt of the ignorant *virtuosi* of his time, and from indignation at the impudent tricks of picture dealers whom he saw continually recommending and vending vile copies to bubble collectors, and from having never studied, indeed having seen few good pictuses of the Italian masters, persuaded himself that the praises bestowed on these glorious works were nothing but the effects of prejudice. He talked this language, till he believed it; and having heard it often asserted, as indeed is true, that time gives a mellowness to colours and improves them, he not only denied the proposition, but maintained the contrary. He even went further; he determined to rival the ancients, and unfortunately chose *this*, one of the finest subjects in England, as the object of his competition.

After many essays, he at length produced *his Sigismunda*, "but no more like Sigismunda, than I to Hercules"! not to mention the wretchedness of the colouring, it was the repre-

sentation of a Maudlin str——— just turned out of keeping, and with eyes red with rage and usquebaugh, tearing off the ornaments her keeper had given her. To add to the disgust raised by such vulgar expression, her fingers were blooded by her lover's heart that lay before her like that of a sheep for her dinner. None of the sober grief, no dignity of suppressed anguish, no involuntary tear, no settled meditation on the fate she meant to meet, no amorous warmth turned holy by despair; in short all was wanting that should have been there, all was there that such a story should have banished from a mind capable of conceiving such complicated woe: woe so sternly felt and yet so tenderly. Hogarth's performance was more ridiculous than any thing he had ever ridiculed. He set the price of 400 guineas on it, and had it returned on his hands by the person for whom it was painted. He took subscriptions for a plate of it, but had the sense to suppress it.*

Thus far says the late Lord Orford; to which we may add that Smollet has introduced the same circumstance into his novel of *Peregrine Pickle*, where he makes Pallet the painter boast of the charms of "his Cleopatra."

As a companion to the Sigismunda, there is on the same side of the apartment, *Artemisia* with the cup containing her husbands ashes, by Guido; also *Baptism of Christ*, by Battisti Franco; two landscapes by Poussin; four views of Venice by Canaletti; two heads expressing *Smell* and *Taste* by Rubens, highly interesting; *Magdalen* with a crucifix and scull, by Trevissani; country church, by Rubens, inimitable; two attacks of convoys, by Van der Meulen; a large landscape by Poussin, with the most accurate and brilliant *distance* we have ever witnessed! Flemish village by Teniers; and the inside of an ancient building in a most superb style of architecture, illuminated both by torch and girandole lights; the artist is unknown, but the effect is exquisite in the contrast between the general and fixed glare of the principal light issuing from the girandole and reflected

* Vide Walpole's Work, Vol. 3. p. 460.

reflected by numerous pillars, and that of the almost moving torches whose beams irradiate in partial gleams the inmost recesses of the long drawn aisles of the edifice.

The *Great Drawing Room* has a most capital portrait of *Rembrandt* by himself; a *Lion and Boar* by Snyders, exquisitely done, and coloured with a degree of warmth equal to Rubens: indeed this piece has been attributed by some connoisseurs, but improperly, to that master; the Discovery of Cyrus by Castiglione; *Rinaldo and Armida* by Vandyke, but she has too much of the Dutch woman about her; St. George and the Dragon, by Rubens; a most extraordinary production of old Franks, being a *Cabinet of Paintings* in which his own portrait is introduced; the colouring is rich yet chaste, and every part is as highly finished as the smallest cabinet pieces; Diana and her nymphs hunting, by Rubens; Sacrifice to Pan, by And. Sacchi; a most exquisite moonlight piece; and a virgin encircled by angels, by Michael Angelo.

The *Breakfast Room* has also a number of paintings. Here are a virgin and child by Albert Durer: a landscape containing the four seasons, the joint production of Van Beulen and Breughel; several sea pieces, and two landscapes, by Ruysdael; two beggar boys, remarkably well done by Gainsborough; *Lord Torrington; Cardinal Imperialti* by Dominichino; a miniature of Lord Chief Justice Mansfield by Myers; two small ovals, by Angelica Kauffman; two small pieces of wild scenes with shepherds, by Salvator Rosa; an elegant flower piece by Van Huysum, most brilliantly coloured agreeable to nature, with a dew drop exquisitely resting on a tulip, almost equal to the tear on Sigismunda's cheek; *Oliver Cromwell*, whose character as well as portrait has been often drawn, but never so pithily as in one short sentence which says that he "raised himself to the possession of the supreme power under the title of Protector of the Common Wealth of England; was equally remarkable for his great military skill, by which he obtained so many victories in the field, and by his amazing abilities in the cabinet,

cabinet, which enabled him to overcome all opposition at home, and to strike even the most powerful nations abroad with terror." Vandyke has a very grand production here of a *Wedding feast*, which is not only remarkable for its fine colour and finish, but particularly so for the very high preservation in which it exists at this day.

But the greatest glory of Clumber is the STATE DINING ROOM, a most magnificent apartment, sixty feet in length, thirty-four in breadth, and in height thirty; it is sufficiently large to accommodate one hundred and fifty guests at table, independent of a superb recess or saloon for the sideboard, &c. The cieling and pannels are extremely rich in stucco and gilding; yet chaste without glare; the lustres are of the finest cut glass; and the marble chimney piece and steel grate, may be seen, but cannot be described; they are in fact an honour to English taste and execution. The other ornaments of this august apartment are few in number, yet rich in value; being estimated at 25,000*l.* sterling, and only seven distinct pieces. Four of these are *Market pieces* by the joint pencils of Snyder and Long John; and consisting of a display of flesh, fish, and fowl, fruit and vegetables. Over the chimney piece is a large painting of dead game by Wenix; and there are two landscapes by Zuccarelli. If Clumber possessed no other paintings than those of this apartment, the time and attention of the tourist, or artist, would be amply repaid by their examination. The display of magnificence here must indeed be striking, when the apartment is prepared for its ostensible purpose, lighted up in the usual brilliant manner, amidst the dazzling radiance of a glittering and superb sideboard, and the sparkling services of glass, &c. In fact, even the housekeeper herself, who acted as our Cicerone, seemed warmed into enthusiasm and astonishment, and like Katterfelto with his hair an end wondering at his own wonders, was scarcely able to describe that exquisite brilliancy which she had assisted in arranging on a late visit of some of the royal family to this splendid abode of hospitality.

It

It has been said, that Rubens assisted in the four large pieces, and that he has introduced himself into one of them in the character of a butcher, accompanied by his two wives. The view of the grounds and water from this room are also exquisite.

The *Chapel* is a very pleasing apartment, admirably fitted for its purpose, and having a very sombre effect from the four windows of stained glass, in which the family arms are very handsomely emblazoned. Here are a *Dead Christ*, and a *Holy Family*, copies after Raphael; but we believe no originals.

The *Dressing Room* up stairs, formerly the duchesses, but now changed for one on the principal floor, is exquisitely furnished with fancy pieces. Here are some very fine fruit pieces; an inlaid table of curious workmanship, &c. and the view from the windows is delightful. Here are also seven very fine paintings in water colours, of ancient Roman taste, brought from Herculaneum.

The furniture and decorations of the Bed rooms are most superb; the beds are fitted up in imitation of tents and pavilions. with their curtains even picturesquely arranged; to all which we must add immense mirrors, both hanging and portable, highly finished cielings, Turkey carpets, inlaid cabinets, and a number of chronometers mounted in masses of sculpture, after the most classical designs. In short every thing breathes the essence of taste and the very soul of magnificence.

Nor must we omit the great conveniences and neatness of the household arrangements, particularly the kitchens and larders, the latter of which are on a scale to contain whole Hecatombs, yet so systematically arranged as to have every thing in the best order and most convenient readiness. Though these are parts of a house not generally shewn, yet the tourist will not fail to be gratified should his Cicerone indulge him with a sight of this her own peculiar domain.

The shortest route for the tourist, who wishes to see

THORESBY PARK,

the seat of earl Manvers, is to cross the bridge in Clumber Park, which he must traverse a mile further through a succession of sylvan scenery, when he arrives at a gate opening to a wild wood lane where there is another park gate leading through Thoresby park for a course of nearly two miles, during which a visitor may almost conceive himself rambling midst transatlantic forests,

> "Majestic woods, of every vigorous green,
> Stage above stage, high waving o'er the hills;
> Or to the far horizon wide diffused,
> A boundless deep immensity of shade."

The mansion itself stands very open, in rather a low situation, nearly in the centre of the park, and well backed with rising ground, thickly planted. The old house was burnt down on the fourth of March 1745, and nothing saved but the family writings, the plate, and a small part of the best furniture; after which, its then possessor the duke of Kingston, grandfather to the present noble proprietor, built the present edifice.

As a modern tourist has observed,* this is rather a comfortable house, then a magnificent seat; it consists of a rustic stone basement, with two stories of brickwork, and the principal front is ornamented with a tetrastyle portico of the Ionic order, of a beautiful stone; the other fronts are regularly decorated.†

The principal entrance is in the basement, opening into the *Hall*, which is slightly ornamented with some landscapes, some sea-pieces, a few good engravings, and a Chiaro Scuro of the Trojan horse, &c.

The *Earl's Dressing Room* opens from the hall, and has some portraits of *Henry earl of Pembroke*, 1769; *Pascal Paoli*, 1770; *Colonel Sawyer*; *Admiral Medowes*, father of the present earl of Manvers; also some sea-pieces and medallions.

The *Little Drawing Room* generally contains many fine paintings;

* Bray's Tour. † Vitruvius Britannicus.

ings; but these being taken down, during some repairs, could not be seen.

In the *Dining Room*, there is nothing particularly worthy of notice, except a very fine *Madona* and infant Jesus.

The ascent to the principal story is by a double staircase in the centre of the mansion, single at the commencement, but dividing at the top of the first flight, and opening into the *Dome*, a circular apartment of factitious marble, supported by fourteen pillars alternately round and square, on which rests a gallery ballustraded, and opening into the upper chambers. The light is admitted from a handsome circular skylight; and the walls are composed of a substance forming a very correct imitation of yellow variegated marble, beautifully contrasting with the white pillars and pilasters, and others resembling *verd antique;* the floor is laid with the same substance, tesselated.

The *Dining Room* is very handsomely fitted up, with curious twisted pillars forming a recess at one end. Its other ornaments are only a portrait of *Earl Howe*, and a well executed landscape of Ben Lomond and its loch.

The *Octagonal Drawing Room* has a very fine effect, when viewed from the staircase. It is superbly, yet we might say *plainly*, fitted up, notwithstanding the elegance of its gilding It contains only a portrait of *Evelyn, duke of Kingston*, and a well moulded bust of *Pascal Paoli*, of whom it has been justly said, that whilst fighting gallantly, first against the Genoese and then against the French, this nation was desirous of seconding his patriotic ardour; and that it still reflects no small share of dishonour on the ministers of a former period, that Louis the fifteenth was permitted with impunity to invade the territories of a free and independent state. But a generous indignation on the part of the people in some measure made amends for the conduct of their rulers, and a hospitable asylum was at length afforded here to the gallant chief, after he had been forced to retire from a long and unequal contest.*

* Vide Public characters; and Boswell's Corsica.

The *Admiral's Gallery* is very low, and very plain; but is hung with a number of interesting sea pieces.

The *Countess's Dressing Room* is peculiarly elegant, comfortable, and commodious; superbly fitted up indeed, but with every attention to useful convenience. It is hung, nay we may say covered, with a profusion of handsome drawings, landscapes, miniatures, &c. amongst which is an inimitable head of a boy writing. Here are also some elegant cabinets.

The Gardens are very fine, part of them constructed by the late duchess in the German style with arbours, and treillaged: and in the shrubbery, a very fine cascade forms a good object in the point of view from the apartments in the back front.

The Park itself is thirteen miles round, and contains several pieces of water. The lake near the house, which is very fine, is laid out so as to represent an extensive river; and which, being amphitheatrically surrounded with lawns that hang as it were towards the house in varied and verdant slopes, has a fine effect, enlivened as it is with several vessels of different sizes.

To give detailed descriptions of every spot within the environs of Worksop, would far exceed our limits; but we must not omit to mention *Shire Oakes*, as it is called from an ancient tree of that name, where there is a good Hall house, fitted up in a handsome and convenient style, the seat of John Hewett, Esq. The chapel of this hamlet, was lately erected and endowed by the Rev. John Hewett, and consecrated by his grace the archbishop of York.

This place, as we have noted, derived its name from an *Oak*, which as Mr. Gilpin observes, in respect both to its size and the dignity of its situation, deserves honourable mention.* In point of grandeur, few trees in this country have ever equalled it; as it spread a space of ninety feet from the extremities of its opposite boughs. Evelyn, in his *Sylva*, says it covered a superficies of 707 square yards; and these dimensions, according to Mr. Gilpin's calculation, will produce an area capable of covering

* Gilpin's Forest Scenery.

covering a squadron of 233 horse. Its own dignity, as he adds, was equalled by the dignity of its station, for it stood on a spot where Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, and Derbyshire unite, and spread its shade over a portion of each. In consequence of its honourable office of thus fixing the boundary of these large counties, it was equally respected through the domains of them all; and was known far and wide, by the distinction of the *Shireoak*, by which appellation it was marked among cities, towns, and rivers, in all the larger maps of the kingdom.

Wallingwells are partly we believe in this county. Here is the seat of Sir Thomas Wollaston White, Bart. Tanner says, that Ralph de Capreo curia, or Cheurolcourt, in the reign of king Stephen, built and endowed a small Benedictine nunnery here, to the honour of the blessed virgin Mary. Its value at the dissolution was 59*l.*; and it was granted by Queen Elizabeth to Richard Pype and Francis Bowyer. It was originally called St. Mary in the Park, but changed that appellation from its situation amongst wells, fountains, and streams.

Creswell crags about three miles from Worksop are, strictly speaking, in Derbyshire, but so adjacent to Nottingham as to have been often considered as part of that county. Lying out of the usual track of good roads, and the road from Worksop being rocky and almost impassable for carriages, they are not often visited; yet they are curious and worthy notice, consisting of rocks torn by some convulsion of nature into a thousand romantic shapes, and presenting a miniature resemblance of the more majestic scenery on the Derwent at Matlock.

Carleton in Lindrick, as it is called to distinguish it from Carlton on Trent, was of sufficient consequence in Saxon times as to have six resident Thanes, each of whom had a hall or manor; but these were all swallowed up by that Leviathan, Roger de Busli, at the Norman conquest. The family of Chevercourt, or Cheurolcourt, held it under him, but their heirs failing, it was divided between the Latimers and Fitz Hughs; from them it came to Dacre, Molyneux, Tayler, and afterwards

to the Cliftons who built a fine seat here. It seems now to be enjoyed by several Gentlemen resident in its neighbourhood; particularly Sir T. White, Bart, Richard Ramsden, Esq. and Robert Kentish Esq. of Wigthorpe.

Carberton though marked as a place of some consequence on the maps, is merely a hamlet of three or four houses in the parish of Edwinstow. Near it is *Cockglode* the seat of Dr. Aldrich, an elegant mansion built in 1778, and much admired throughout the county and vicinity. The views from the house, which stands upon a gentle swell, are extensive and pleasing; and the woods and home grounds are laid out with great attention to picturesque effect.

Palethorp, or Pevereltharpe, adjoins Thoresby park, and is in the same parish with it, (Edwinstow). It has a good inn, and is the property of the Pierpoint family; but has passed through many hands since its first grant to Roger de Busli.

Crossing the forest into the high road from Worksop to Mansfield, we come to *Cuckney*, after passing the hamlet of Norton through heavy sands by the pales of Welbeck Park. Here is much wild forest scenery, as the road skirts the limits of Sherwood; there are also some inclosures.

Leland in speaking of this place, says "from this bridge (Welbeck) to Cuckeney village about a mile: and ther cam down a broke from west, resorting as one said to Wilebek stream, or Wilebek to it. There is 2 miles by corn, wood, and pasture to Warksop village end, ther ran a Bek; and this, as the other doth, resorteth to Rufford stream."

We find by Mr. Throsby's authority, that this village has only increased to its present size and importance within this last half-century; and that, in consequence of the worsted and cotton manufactories established within that period. The mills are on an extensive and convenient plan, and give occupation to a number of Children from the Foundling Hospital in the metropolis. These poor, deserted objects, are placed under the care of proper superintendants, and lodged in separate

cottages so as to divide the sexes, and they are not only well fed, and provided with proper medical aid, but are also, (at least in Throsby's time) brought up in the knowledge of religious and moral duties; which prudent regulation, we understand is still adhered to.

The church is an extensive edifice, being 126 feet in length, with a very handsome tower. It is of the later Gothic; but may have been originally of an older erection, as there is a fragment of a sepulchral stone in the floor with the date of 1351 in black letter; there are several other ancient monumental records.

The village is large, and very neat: and, in addition to its other manufactories, has a mill for polishing marble.

At *Langwith*, there was a seat of earl Bathurst, but now neglected and dilapidated; and the tenants on the Cuckney and Langwith estates are not only exerting themselves in agricultural improvements, but have lately established an association on a most excellent plan for the prevention and conviction of robberies, and agricultural offences.

Warsop consists of two villages, about half a mile asunder; *Church Warsop*, and *Market Warsop*; sometimes called the Church-town, and Fair-town.

The former has a very neat Gothic church, and an antique vicarage close to the road; the village lying principally to the left. The latter lies right in the road, and is very extensive, but seems of very ancient architecture, principally farm houses and cottages. It has two fairs, on the 21st of May, and 17th of November; mostly for cattle and horses.

Passing through Mansfield Woodhouse, which shall be further noticed, we come through a line of road and a narrow street called *Leeminglane*,* into

* Derived from the British *Lle*, a road, and *Mean*, a stone; or the road on the rock.

MANSFIELD,

Which was also visited by our predecessor, *Old Barnaby*, who tells us

> "Veni Mansfeld, ubi noram
> Mulierculam decoram,
> Cum qua, nudum feci pactum,
> Dedi ictum, egi actum ;
> Sed pregnantem timens illam
> Sprevi villam et ancillam."—

but not being urged by the same reasons, as master Barnaby, to a speedy departure, we shall stop to take a view of this very ancient, and large, but straggling town, whose first sight rather makes an unfavourable impression on a stranger, as its streets even in summer are dirty and badly paved, its houses built of a gloomy looking stone, and, in short, the whole place in such a state, as if the word "Police," was unknown in the Mansfieldian lexicography. Its age indeed may be partly the cause of this sombre expression ; but still we conceive it possible to be venerable without being dirty ; and if it was no better in the days of our earlier monarchs, we cannot help thinking that their frequent residence there, was no proof of their taste. Standing as it does on a rock, there can be no excuse for the badness of the pavement; unless the curators of its internal economy think that, where nature has done so much, it is unnecessary for them to do any thing; but it is said that what is seen every day, is not seen at all, therefore they may perhaps have forgot that the neighbouring quarries will afford them stone, and that the forest of Sherwood contains a quantity of gravel which might be laid on with some prospect of improvement.

There is no doubt that Mansfield is justified in boasting a very early antiquity ; but the tale that the counts of Mansfield in Germany came here to attend at the tournaments of king Arthur's round table, and gave their name to it, is a mere fable : indeed

indeed it is unnecessary to trouble ourselves about conjectures, when we have a plain and simple solution of the derivation of its name before us.

"North from Annesley is the town of Kirby in Ashfield, in the north part whereof riseth a little brooke named *Man*, which descendeth thence northward by the town of Sutton in Ashfield, and so *through the town of Mansfield* in Sherwood forest, an ancient market town, and hath its name of the said water, as I take it."*

Of its British origin, though it may have existed in those times, we know nothing; but that it was a British, and afterwards a Roman station, is generally believed: indeed its *latter* occupancy is proved by the discovery of many Roman coins of Vespasian, Constantine, Marcus Aurelius, and others of the lower empire; by the exploratory camps, which are numerous in its vicinity; and particularly by the recent discovery of a Roman villa, which shall be noticed more at large in its proper place.

After the desertion of this island by the Roman legions, it seems to have flourished during the Saxon heptarchy, being a favourite, though only temporary, residence of the Mercian kings in consequence of its neighbouring forest then well supplied with beasts of chace.

In the time of Edward the confessor it was royal demesne, and was continued as such by William the conqueror, and by his son William Rufus whose fondness for forests hastened his death. This latter monarch gave the church of Mansfield, and all its possessions, to the cathedral of St. Mary at Lincoln. In the reign of Stephen, the manor was granted to Ranulph de Gernon, earl of Chester; but that line ending in coheiresses, it was regranted to Hastings, and to John Comyn earl of Buchan. This was indeed in the reign of Henry the third, previous to which it had often been a favourite resort of the Norman monarchs. The well known story, of king Henry the second

* Harl. Coll. No. 368. 53.

cond and the Miller of Mansfield, it is unnecessary to repeat; though we suspect the event, if it ever did happen, to have taken place at a much later period; at least the present rhyming tale preserved by Percy in his Reliques, is of a much later composition. It is indeed a tale so replete with uncouth indecency, without even the slightest spark of wit to recommend it, that we are surprized even a fondness for antiquity could have induced the learned bishop to insert it in his collection, particularly as the "Reliques" are, in some measure, a parlour window book: for on the same principle, the collector of some future age might be justified in republishing even those effusions of salacious wit and meretricious description of the present day, some of which have been noticed by the Society for the Suppression of Vice, whilst others under the name of "Confessions," "Spirits of Books," and "Monks," are still sufficient to pollute the shelves of every circulating library.

The inhabitants of Mansfield, however, still consider the honour of the town connected with the antiquity of the story; and tradition says that the mill and house now inhabited, or lately so, by the widow Massey, situated on the left hand of the road passing from Mansfield to Sutton, were built on the scite of the house and mill where the king was entertained; though nothing remains of the ancient buildings.*

In the reign of John, the inhabitants in order to promote the publick good of their township, paid fifteen marks to the crown, for right of common in Clipstone park, as they were wont to do before its inclosure; and by paying five marks to Henry the third, they obtained a charter for a weekly market on Monday, and from the same monarch obtained the privilege of having *Housebote* and *Haybote* out of the forest.

In the reign of Henry the eighth this manor was granted to the earl of Surry for his gallant conduct at Floddenfield; but the king afterwards gave him some other lands in exchange for it; after

* Harrod's Mansfield.

after which it went to the then dukes of Newcastle, who from hence took the title of Viscount Mansfield.

Leland describing it in the reign of Henry the eighth, says "thence to Mannesfield, a praty market town of one paroche, by like ground (corn, wood, and pasture,) a three miles, and there rennith in the midle of it a rille, and in the bottome, as I rode out,—west a four miles of, and so it goeth to Clypston a three miles lower, and so to Bufford water."

Notwithstanding our animadversions on its first appearance in the eye of a stranger, we must acknowledge that on a nearer acquaintance he may be disposed to allow that it contains many good houses, and that it is both a flourishing and genteel market town. Should his term of residence include the Sabbath day, he will see that it contains a handsome and shewy female population, and that it has many Quakers amongst its inhabitants. Throsby observes that there are some very old houses, but that the most ancient is supposed to be that in Church-street, now the White Hart Inn, which was in the reign of Henry the eighth, the residence of *Lady* Cecily Flogan. Who *she* was is uncertain, there being no tradition, nor inscription on her monument (nor even arms) which is under an arch in the church. In her will she is called plain Cecily; but in an extract from the rolls of the court of Augmentations in the reign of Edward the sixth, "Dame Cecily Flogan, widow," most likely widow of a knight. She was very pious and charitable, giving much to the church to pray for her soul, and obliging certain of her tenants to keep a stout and able bull, and boar, for the use of the parish. Her house has its ground floor built of stone, but the upper part is woodframed, though with some modern alterations.

At the east end of the town there is a good modern house built in 1762 by Colonel Lichfield, and called Ratcliffe gate; he had been in the duke of Kingston's light horse during the rebellion of 1745, but returned afterwards to reside at Mansfield.

The

The church is a good building with respect to size and commodiousness, and of the later Gothic; it is dedicated to St. Peter, and is in length from east to west, ninety-three feet, sixty-three from north to south, and has a middle and two side aisles. It was partly burnt down in 1304, along with the town; but is now re-edified and still in good preservation. Its body is supported by handsome pillars; over each side aisle there is a spacious gallery; and at the west end, there is a very fine toned organ of fourteen stops which was erected in 1795, at an expense of two hundred guineas. In the preceding year, the inhabitants of Mansfield, paying 15*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.* obtained an archiepiscopal license not only to erect this organ, but also to build the new gallery over the south aisle, to remove the pulpit to its present situation, and to convert a private pew into a church-ing one, &c.

The pulpit is now judiciously placed in the middle aisle, and is of handsome mahogany, with a support of four neatly turned pillars of the same material.

In the interior are many monuments of stone, and monumental inscriptions, with brass plates both inscribed and armorial; also some considerable remains of painted glass; but as these are principally of local interest, we must refer to the description of a local historian.*

Here are many respectable *Sectarians*; the Presbyterian meeting house is a neat and spacious building, and well attended, and possesses an organ; a neat building has also been erected by the Calvinists; and here are also comfortable meeting houses for the Quakers and Methodists.

A *Free Grammar School* was founded here by queen Elizabeth, with two scholarships of 10*l.* each at Jesus college Cambridge. This was endowed by charter; and for its establishment and support, two thirds of the church lands go to the vicar, two thirds of the remainder to the head master, and the remainder to

* Vide Harrod's Mansfield.

to the usher. The school-house was erected in 1567; but rebuilt in the reign of Queen Anne.

Here is a Charity School for 36 boys who are cloathed and educated;* and here are also four Sunday schools.

Mansfield market is now held on Thursday, and is always well supplied. The fairs are on the 5th of April; 10th July; and second Thursday in October; all for horses, cattle, and sheep; but the two former, principally for cattle and hogs, have not been established many years, and being only dependent upon common consent, without charters, are merely called "Meetings;" at the October fair, some cheese is brought for sale.

There are here several very considerable Manufactures which have much improved the town of late years. There are five cotton mills upon a very extensive scale; one of which has 2400 spindles, with carding and roving machinery, and gives employment to 160 individuals.

Here are also upwards of 700 frames employed in making stockings and gloves, both of silk and cotton. An Iron foundery possesses an extensive trade, where iron is cast in any shape or size. Nor is it unlikely that iron stone might be found in this neighbourhood, as the quarries at the north side of the town seem very copiously tinged with the ochre of that metal.

The Malting and Stone trades have long been of considerable value.

Double point net, worked in frames, was brought to its present elegant state of perfection by the ingenuity of Mr. John Rogers of this place in 1786.

The

* This Charity School was founded in 1702, and supported then by a subscription of 12l. per annum. In 1711 a Mr. Brunts left 4l. per annum for its better maintenance, and also an addition of 4l. per annum to put one poor boy out, apprentice to some trade.

Other grants to the poor, and for charitable purposes, are many and various; but so numerous that we must refer to Mr. Harrod's very diffuse and correct History of the place.

The patent circular saw was also invented here by James Murray, a workman employed by a Mr. Brown, an ingenious turner and mechanic. By means of this invention, ten times the quantity of work can be performed, and that in a much neater manner and with less labour than by the common saw.

The only public building in the place is the *Moot Hall*, in which the county meetings are often held on account of the central situation of the town. It stands in the market place, and was built by lady Oxford in the year 1752, principally for the purpose of accommodating the market folks with shelter; and also to supply the town itself with an apartment suitable for municipal business, and the gentry with a good assembly room. This apartment is 48 feet by 17, but is low and badly proportioned; nor does the lower part afford the intended shelter; so that there may be some truth in the local story of her ladyship coming to see it when finished, but being so disgusted as never even to look at it afterwards.

There is much sociability in Mansfield. A *Coffee Room* has been established at the Swan inn by subscription of the nobility and gentry of the vicinity, and of the principal trades people in the town. All members are chosen by ballot; and the plan extends to London and country papers, maps, charts, periodical publications, &c.

The *Theatre* is small, but well contrived, and contains both side and front boxes.

A *Bowling Green* has also been long established in Leeming-lane; fifty-two yards in length by thirty-three. It is supported by subscription; and the house contains a billiard room, and also an assembly room, where the justices often meet to transact business.

A handsome and commodious *Cold Bath* also affords both health and comfort to the inhabitants. Of this, Mr. Harrod observes, the approach from Leeming-lane is truly picturesque and scarcely so much variety can be found any where else in a walk of only 300 yards. The visitor is first struck with a view

view of two regularly built cotton mills, before each of which is a sheet of water reflecting the buildings, and surrounded by hills between which runs the river Mann. Having viewed these, on turning a little to the right, the church steeple appears to much advantage. From this situation are seen excavated rocks which have a good effect, resembling a fortification. Near the bath is a large rock from which issues a constant stream of water, and forms the supply.

In this neighbourhood too are many domestic excavations in the rocks, where the modern *Troglodytes* have their huts, and even their gardens formed in the bosom of the sterile stone; and in some parts, the incautious visitor may run the risk of stepping down a chimney!

The *Manor Customs* of Mansfield are curious in many instances; and it is recorded in the "Forest Book," that "Tenaunts be fre of blode and lefully may marye them after ther willes as wel men as women,—that the eyres as sone as they bene born, byen of full age,—and that lands are departabill betwixt sonnes, or daughters if ther be no sonne:" this seems a remnant of the old Saxon custom of *Gavelkind*.

Mansfield presents several instances of Biography worth recording. Here was born *William Mansfield*, who is supposed by Fuller, to have derived his name from that circumstance. He was bred a Dominican, and was much esteemed for his great proficiency in logics, ethics, physics, and metaphysics. He defended Thomas Aquinas against Henry Gandavensis, although both these great Polemics had long been in the silent grave; but by this he gained great celebrity. "Bale who is not usually so civil in his expressions, saith that he did strew braneches of palms before Christ's asse; which if so, was (I assure you) no bad employment."

Humphrey Ridley, son of Thomas Ridley of this place, became a student of Merton College in 1671, at the age of 18; at which time, or soon after, he was taken into the service of Dr. Richard Trevor, fellow of that college, and played the fiddle

fiddle as much as the book. But leaving the University without a degree, he went to Cambridge, where he was *doctorated* in physic. Afterwards going to London, and practising physic there, became fellow of the College of Physicians, and wrote "the Anatomy and Physiology of the Brain," also a particular "Account of Animal Functions, and Muscular Motion;"* circumstances which shew him much above the ridiculous medical *fiddle faddle* of that age of ignorance and quackery.

Dr. William Chappel was also a native of this place, and partly educated here, but graduated at Christ church college Cambridge. He got considerable preferment in Ireland, being Provost of Dublin college, and bishop of Corke and Ross. We are told that he was a close reasoner, and very subtle disputant; and that he even got the name of killing one of his antagonists by an accident. During the reign of James the first, and in the presence of that monarch, there was a public commencement solemnized at Cambridge, when Dr. Roberts of Trinity being *Respondent* in St. Mary's, Mr. Chappel opposed him so closely and with such ingenuity, that the Doctor finding himself unable to solve or to answer his arguments, actually fell into a swoon; so that the king, in order to hold up the commencement, undertook to maintain the thesis himself; but Chappel pushed him so home, that the pedantic monarch, thanked God the opponent was his subject, and not anothers, lest he should lose the *throne* as well as the *chair*.

When the rebellion broke out in Ireland in 1641, he returned to England; died at Derby; and was buried at Bilsthorpe in this county.

Here lived *Simon Sterne*, father of Dr. Richard Sterne, archbishop of York, whose third son, another Simon, was grandfather of the well known *Lawrence Sterne*; a man whose reputation as one of the finest writers in the English language is fixed on the firmest basis, so that he is even now advanced to the rank of a classic. Though much indebted to *Rabelais*, yet no

* Wood's Athenæ, Vol. II. p. 947.

no writer of the present times can lay claim to so many unborrowed excellencies; and in none, have wit, humour, fancy, pathos, an unbounded knowledge of mankind, and a correct and elegant style, been so happily blended.*

The well known and amiable *Dodsley*, born at Anston in this neighbourhood, the friend of Shenstone, and the protégé of Pope, was first put apprentice to a stocking weaver of Mansfield; and, being literally starved, took French leave, and was hired as a servant by a lady in London, in whose service he had the liberty of perusing her library. This lady perceiving that he employed his leisure in improving himself, gave him great encouragement, soon after which he was induced to write the dramatic entertainment of the "King and Miller of Mansfield," which being shewn to Pope and others, they approved of it so much, as to prevail on one of the theatrical monarchs to bring it forward. It met, as was expected, with considerable, nay unbounded applause; yet if any one will now take the trouble of looking at it, they will call it a flimsy production, marking in some measure the extreme ignorance of the author, for he makes guns and gunpowder in common use in the reign of Henry the second, at which time the story is supposed to have happened, though some have brought it down as low as Edward the fourth. Out of the profits of its exhibition, however, added to the liberality of the lady and her friends, Mr. Dodsley was enabled to set up a shop, which, with his own prudence and integrity through life, laid the foundation of his subsequent good fortune.

Of a later period, was *Mr. C. Thomson* who died in 1784, at the age of 70. He was a man of considerable adventure; was long resident in Persia, as agent for the Russia company; afterwards settled at Lisbon; and having experienced various changes of fortune, at length realized a competency, and settled in his native place, where he died. Having been often shocked at the sight of the neglected, mutilated, and too often dishonoured

* Vide "Observations," prefixed to the latest edition of his works.

dishonoured remnants of mortality in church yards, he chose to be buried in Sherwood forest in this vicinity, and left directions for that purpose, in a most whimsical will, which were complied with. The spot is on the left of the road to Nottingham.

Of the various seats in the immediate neighbourhood of this place, we may notice,

SHERWOOD HALL, the seat of John Need, Esq. 'Tis an excellent house on the forest, about one mile from Mansfield. Its situation is extremely pleasant, and its grounds are tastefully ornamented with thriving plantations.

NETTLEWORTH the residence of Edward Greaves, Esq. stands in a hamlet of Mansfield of that name. The old mansion has been long pulled down, but the modern house stands on its scite. It is in Pinxton parish which is half in Derbyshire and half in Nottinghamshire, standing at the bottom of gentle declivity and on the verge of a most delightful valley. Embosomed thus in hills, its retired situation is rendered even more so by its surrounding woods; the scenery is elegantly diversified; and the home grounds most agreeably watered by two rivulets which glide through the valley in front, and uniting, form some very fine pieces of ornamental water. The house, though ancient, is substantial, and stands in the north part of the pleasure grounds, being we believe in Derbyshire, as is also Pinxton Hall the ancient seat of the family.

Here is also BROOKHILL HALL, the seat of the Rev. D'Ewes Coke; also PARK HALL, the seat of Colonel Hall; and BERRY HALL, a good house on the edge of the Forest, with elegant grounds and extensive prospects, the seat of T. Walker, Esq.

The ramble from Mansfield into the Forest towards Rufford and Ollerton, is extremely pleasing. About one mile from the town, a gate opens upon the forest, where the view presents a striking contrast. On the right it is wild and waste, swelling into hills covered with fern and heath; whilst on the left there

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is a charming cultivated valley. After proceeding a short distance we come to

Clipstone Park, now the property of the duke of Portland, and containing a handsome lodge, but small and modern, belonging to that nobleman. This park is near eight miles in circumference, and was once famous for its fine oaks, but most of these were cut down during the civil wars and usurpation; much of it is now waste, but there is still some old planting.

Near to it is the village of CLIPSTON; "the water of Man descendeth northward from the town of Mansfield through the forest and through Clipstone Park, and so by the town of Clipstone where was an ancient house of the princes of this realm, but before the conquest by the king of Northumberland."*

King John frequently resided here, both whilst earl of Mortein and after his accession to the crown, and several deeds and grants are dated from this place, since which it has retained the name of king John's palace.

A Parliament was also held here by Edward the first in the year 1290; it is indeed uncertain whether they met in the palace, or under an ancient oak on the edge of the park, to which tradition now gives the name of the *Parliament Oak*. Of this nothing now remains except part of its large trunk, scathed and denuded, with one solitary branch about ten feet from the ground, which annually puts forth a few leaves.

The only part remaining of the palace, which stands in a large field close to the village, seems to have been the hall; and several of its Gothic windows are yet entire. Its foundations have, formerly, been very extensive, with several vaults, but during the last summer great part of these were dug up to be employed in a system of drainage which the duke of Portland has commenced upon his property here. We understood, however, from the workmen, that his Grace had given strict orders, that the venerable walls of this once royal pile should not be touched. Even in its present dilapidated state, it would

* Harl. Coll. 363. 53.

be picturesque if shaded with planting; it is still, notwithstanding, interesting, and strongly raises the idea of times long past, when steel clad knights, and barons bold, and haughty priests, and smiling courtiers, and strait laced dames, and blushing damsels, and the whole etcetera of feudal pomp and high minded chivalry paced its now deserted halls, where the bat and toad assume the empire of the night, and where the sun only breaks in upon a scene of desolation.

From this abode of ancient departed grandeur, we turn to the right, and cross a wild extent of the forest for about three miles, to a scene of more modern desertion; and entering some thick and shady woods, we proceed until their forest walks bring us to the Ollerton high road, where a park gate leads through some thick overarching elms to

RUFFORD ABBEY,

an immense edifice of not very recent date, erected upon, and engrafted into, the remains of the ancient monastic building. Its situation is extremely sequestered, and the entrance front is so completely embowered in a grove of elm and beech, as to preserve much of the original character of the building, though it has been so much altered by the ancestors of the late patriotic Sir George Saville, its former possessor.

The ancient monastery, or Cistercian abbey, was founded here in 1148, by Gilbert de Gaunt earl of Lincoln, for a colony of monks whom he brought from Rivaulx abbey in Yorkshire, in honour of the blessed virgin Mary.

At the dissolution it was found to contain fifteen of this holy brotherhood, whose revenues amounted to 254*l.*; after which its scite and the greatest part of the church lands were granted to George earl of Shrewsbury, in exchange for some others: from whom, by the marriage of his grand daughter and heiress to Sir George Saville of Barrowby in Lincolnshire, it came to that family.

Thoroton,

Thoroton, speaking of it in his time, says that it had often been the residence of king James the first and his son Charles, who found it very commodious for hunting in Sherwood forest, and were hospitably entertained there. He adds, there was some distance from the house towards the south, a pleasant large pool, through which the river Mann had its course, but was there confined to its channel and carried along the top of the bank or dam, and the place of the pool made dry ground, and therefore made more profitable, pleasant, and healthful, than before, though some still thought otherwise. It is evident too that succeeding improvers thought otherwise, for the river has again been allowed to overflow its banks, and thus to form a very pleasing and extensive sheet of water, winding amongst gentle swells clumped with picturesque plantations, and adding much to the beauty of the grounds.

In the time of Sir George Saville, this place was in all its splendour, but coming by an heiress to the Scarborough family, to a *younger* branch of which it must always belong, it is now the property of the Hon. and Rev. Lumley Saville, who resides at Edwinstow in the vicinity, and has, therefore, left Rufford almost in an unfurnished state, with the exception of a numerous and valuable collection of paintings.

On approaching the entrance front, we ascend some steps over an area which surrounds the house, and gives light to the offices in the under ground story, then enter a *large hall* altered to its present state in the reign of queen Elizabeth, and with its lofty ceiling, high raised screen, and brick floor, marking the taste of that period. Here are some very ancient portraits; two curious pieces of boys and girls surrounded with fruit and flowers; and one pleasing landscape.

The *Brown Dining Room* is a handsome apartment, but unfurnished. It contains, however, among many paintings a very fine *dead Christ* by candlelight, most exquisitely done; four correspondent pictures of arches surmounted with saints, angels, and virgins, apparently copied from the decorations of

some of the Italian galleries; a very curious landscape with a representation of an Italian wedding; a town on fire, by moonlight; and a Dutch sea-piece.

In the *Billiard Room* there is nothing particularly curious except the portrait of that ugly wretch *Buckhorse* of whom it has been said, that some years ago he was well known for his readiness to engage in boxing matches, in which he would often come off conqueror, by suffering his antagonist to beat him until he had exhausted all his strength, after which he would beat him in his turn.

The *Drawing Room* is hung with handsome tapestry, but has nothing curious except two elegant drawings of a ship's hull.

The *Long Gallery* is 114 feet long, and 36 broad, and contains many very valuable portraits, besides some other paintings. *Sisera* and *Judith*, most *horribly* well executed! *Sir William Saville*, in 1635. *His Lady.* John adoring Christ. *Sir Henry Saville* with a letter addressed "Illustri Viro, Domino Henrico S. et nostro amico colendo et merendo." A Peer in his ruff and robes. A Madona. *Sir George Saville* the first possessor, in the old dress. *Gilbert earl of Shrewsbury*, a whole length; with his face fresh coloured, and small black whiskers; his costume consists of a black cloak over a grey habit, short trunk hose, the ribband of the garter hanging round his neck, and a short silver hilted sword. George earl of Shrewsbury, in a similar antique dress, with the insignia of the garter. *Christina*, queen of Sweden; very masculine. The *earl of Halifax*, with his two wives, and first wife's grandfather. The father of the earl in a buff coat and iron breastplate, with long lank hair; his wife and four daughters. *Sir Henry Sidney*, time of Elizabeth; a three quarter piece, with a stern look, black whiskers and beard. *Robert earl of Essex. Duke of Northumberland*, apparently mad, or melancholy, and presenting a humiliating view of human greatness. *Edward the sixth*, a three quarter length on board. *Mrs. Gertrude Saville.* A female head looking out of a window with a wooden shutter; in this the effect

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of the light is most admirably done. Dead Game. *Mrs. Saville. Lady Cole.* A curious portrait of a young man on wood, with the following inscription round the frame, "Le Sieur H. D. pardit son vie naturelle au service du Prince, a Saint Queinten avecque honour et l'amour du Soldats et du monde, et de son age vint ans et dimi 1557:" he is in red uniform with a scarf and spear.

An apartment is next shewn called "the Prince of Wales's bed room," his royal highness having slept here some years ago; but it contains nothing worthy notice except the tapestry.

In a small room on this floor there were a settee and some chairs, worked by an aunt of the late baronet, from the prints of the Harlot's Progress, extremely well copied.

In the Attic story, there are an immense number of rooms, in which there are a variety of paintings. The most exquisite of these which, however, unfortunately seem quite neglected, are, a *Drunkard*, remarkably well done, though rather disgusting; a *Dawn of morning*; a *Magdalen*, highly impressive; a *Girl reading* by candle light, in the style of Schalcken; a very fine head of a *Boy reading*, in deep study; *Jedidiah Buxton*, a most extraordinary head;* a portrait of *Anne Bullen* on wood,

* Of this extraordinary character, born in Derbyshire about the year 1700, a short account has been given in the delineation of that county; but a few additional particulars will not be irrelevant in this place. He has been known to multiply a sum of 39 places of figures, into itself, and has even conversed whilst performing it. His memory was so great, that he could leave off, and resume the operation at the distant periods of a week, or even several months. He said that he was *drunk* once with reckoning by his memory from the 17th of May until the 16th of June, and then recovered after sleeping soundly seven hours. The question which occupied him so intensely was the reduction of a cube of upwards of 200 millions of miles into barley corns, and then into hairs breadths of an inch in length. He kept an account of all the beer he had drank for 40 years, which was equal to 5116 pints. Of these 2150 were drank at the duke of Kingstons; at his own house *ten!*

Having

but by no means so handsome as Holbein has painted her in one which is preserved at Losely in Surrey; yet as this one bears a great resemblance to a portrait of her at Hever castle in Kent, the seat of her family, one is almost led to suspect that Henry's taste for beauty would not have been much followed at the present day.

After descending another long range of staircases, (of which there are three or four and twenty in the house) we pass through the *Great Drawing Room* in which is a fine portrait of the late baronet, with a map before him; he is full length, but sitting. In this apartment also are three views of Roche abbey; and a very fine piece of wild boar and dogs, by Schneider.

But the two greatest curiosities amongst the paintings in this mansion are exquisite little pieces, which the housekeeper has been directed to keep locked up in one of her presses below. One of them is a Dutch painting of a *Fiddler and groupe*, the other an *Old woman with flowers*, the painter we believe unknown, but the execution done in the most exquisite style of high finishing. In short as pictures, they may almost be considered as invaluable, and we could not help expressing our astonishment, that two *cabinet bijoux* of such exquisite taste should be thus suffered to lie unseen amidst table cloths and napkins.

Though this mansion is uninhabited, the noble owner with a religious affection to the memory of his ancestors, has preserved the gardens and grounds in the best state; indeed every thing is so elegant both within and without, that even a stranger cannot help feeling regret that such a spot should be in a great measure unenjoyed!

We cannot leave this place without noticing the plantations of useful timber which took place under the auspices of the late Sir George Saville. In the various parts of the forest around

Having been taken to a concert in London, whilst attending upon the Royal Society, he declared that the *innumerable* sounds produced by the instruments, had perplexed him beyond measure!

around the house, there are no less than 1090 acres planted with oak and ash; and the enclosures made by that worthy baronet, since the year 1776, amount to the extraordinary quantity of 1960 acres.

Bilsthorpe is a small village about three miles to the right of Rufford. Before the conquest it was the property of Ulph the Saxon, but was given by William the conqueror to Gilbert de Gaunt, being at that time *Soke* to Rufford. From him it came to the family of Tregos; then to Lowdham, and Foljambes, afterwards to the Broughtons, &c. At one time it was in the very heart of the wild forest; but recent inclosures have given it an airy appearance, and its simple inhabitants seem industrious, happy, and contented. The church is dedicated to St. Margaret, and though small is very neat: it has several monuments, amongst which may be seen that of Dr. Chappel, bishop of Corke, mentioned under the head of Mansfield. In the humble church yard is the following humble attempt at what we suppose the parish clerk considered *poetry*.

"Little Mary's dead and gone,
And was a loving
And a precious wife to little John
Fletcher."

An ancient mansion, or hall house, stands near the church, and like all other old mansions has its accompanying tales. It is said that Charles the first was secreted here for some time; but this perhaps has as little truth in it, as the other tradition mentioned by Throsby, of a large hollow rock near it having served the humble purpose of a nocturnal utensil to the redoubtable Robin Hood!

Wellow is another small village in the vicinity, with a poor looking chapel dedicated to St. Swithin; it consists principally of poor cottagers, who find employment in the numerous hop gardens in the neighbourhood. The late Sir Francis Molyneux, Bart. had a small house here with very good gardens.

Ollerton is a small market town through which runs the high road from Newark and Southwell to Mansfield, and it has some good inns, on which and its hop grounds it principally depends. Its market is on Friday; and there is a hop market every Tuesday in September. Its *Fairs* are on May day for cattle, sheep, and pedlary, and the 27th of September for hops.

The chapel, though erected in the ancient style, is a modern edifice, and is kept in very good order; it is in the parish of Edwinstow.

Colonel Thomas Markham, son of George Markham, Esq. of this place, was a gentleman of great loyalty during the civil wars, and his courage and conduct were so highly esteemed that the command of a regiment was given to him. But in 1643, having engaged the Parliamentary forces near Gainsborough, he was driven, with many others, into the Trent, and unfortunately drowned. His loss was not only a source of great sorrow to his own relatives, but to all engaged in the royal cause, as great hopes had been formed from his military exertions.

From Ollerton, the route towards Edwinstow lies through Sherwood forest, and there is much of the rural wood scenery to be seen, particularly around a small house embosomed in trees, the seat of Governor Milnes. Here are also the residences of Dr. Oakes, and of —— Boothby, Esq.

The village of Edwinstow is extremely rural; and the venerable church has a lofty spire highly ornamented with turret looking Gothic niches.

In the church yard, is the following *poetical attempt*:

"Robert Rockley body here is laid;
Its for him these lines are made.
That we all here may remember
He died the 19th of September
Robert Rockley son he be
His age is near to 23.
1742."

Edwinstowe.

Edwinstowe, or Edenstow, was originally a "berue" of the great manor of Mansfield, of which the king was lord; but the inhabitants had a right of pasture and hay in Billahay and in Birkland, the town being within the limits of the forest. Henry the fourth granted them a fair for two days in every year; and they had also a license to pull down their houses within the forest, and carrying them out of it, to set them up elsewhere! The fair now lasts only one day; and is held on the 24th of October for cattle, horses, but principally pigs, and sheep.

A pleasant route across the forest brings the tourist back to Mansfield, from whence he may set out in a western direction on a very agreeable ramble towards Hardwick hall, already described under the head of Derbyshire, as the mansion stands in that county; but as part of the park is in Nottingham, and the intervening space peculiarly romantic, and out of the general line of travelling, we shall slightly sketch its features. The route, however, is not passable for carriages, nor is it even convenient for the equestrian, as great part of it lies in pathways through inclosures. The best line of road to see and enjoy all its beauties, is to proceed on the Alfreton road about half a mile from Mansfield, then turning up Bangcroft-lane to cross some inclosures by a path that leads to a forest lane, where turning to the right the rambler comes to Penny Mont houses, through a tract of finely diversified hill and dale, and of richly cultivated scenery well wooded. The lane now leads to Newfound mill, standing in a valley watered by a small stream that divides the two counties; a rugged declivity must now be descended, when crossing the rivulet, and rising the opposite hill, a narrow lane to the left leads him through embowering woods to Hardwick hall.

Whilst on this route, a short *detour* to the left brings the tourist to *Skegby* which is a chapel to Mansfield, and is worth visiting, not only on account of its retired situation, but also for the purpose of viewing some antique pieces of monumental sculpture,

sculpture, one of which is highly illustrative of ancient times, though without date, being two rude figures of a man and woman in the attitude of prayer, the man evidently a *forester* with the bugle horn hanging at his side. Near this is a seat of T. Lindley, Esq.

"From Mansfield westward is the town of Tershall (now Tevershall) wherein is the house of John Molyneux, Esq. whose grandfather married the daughter and heire of Roger Greenhalgh, Esq. owner thereof, whose ancestor long before had married with the heir of Barry a gentleman of ancient name and continuance in this shire."*

This manor is still the property of the Molyneux family; and the place is particularly worth notice on account of its ancient church dedicated to St. Lawrence; this edifice, in the nave and chancel, is 75 feet in length, and has two side aisles; and its sides are supported by Saxon and Gothic arches on circular pillars, whose capitals are surrounded by a few rude ornaments. There can be no doubt of the high antiquity of this church, though its exterior in some parts seems of a more modern date; its south door is particularly curious, being of Saxon architecture, and in very good preservation, with an indented moulding surrounded by curious and various devices of birds, fish, &c. though unfortunately beautified with a super coat of the church warden's cosmetic lotion, vulgarly yclep'd *white wash*.

The tower is of a much older date than the body of the edifice in general; and in the inside there are some antique monuments of Molyneux, Babington, Greenhalgh, &c. Considerable attention seems to have been paid to the neatness and comfort of the interior; in the nave there are several atchievements hanging up against the pillars; the roof is painted blue and white with a pleasing effect; the whole is regularly and well pewed with oak; and there is a very elegant canopied, and highly

* Harl. Col. 359.

ly ornamented pew for Sir Francis Molyneux, with the family vault below.

Part of the old mansion house remains, with some armorial bearings in stonework; and there is an excellent and commodious rectory house with good gardens, a fine lawn in front embowered amidst high and stately trees, and possessing a fine view into Derbyshire.*

Returning from Newfound mill, we recross the stream and proceed straight on by a road which leads to *Pleasley*, a small village standing partly in the two counties. On passing the market cross, a short turn to the left for about half a mile brings us to the church, when turning to the right we enter a dell whose

> " ——————— bounds
> Are edged with wood, o'er hung by hoary cliffs,
> Which from the clouds bend frowning. Down a rock,
> Above the loftiest summit of the grove,
> A tumbling torrent wears the shagged stone;
> Then gleaming through the intervals of shade
> Attains the valley, where the level stream"

conducts us towards *Pleasley Forge* an extensive range of cotton works seated on the rivulet which divides the shires of Notts and Derby. In this spot, so little known, even in its immediate neighbourhood, we meet with all the romantic beauty and all the sublime effect of Matlock and Dovedale. Here are high and rugged cliffs well wooded on their summits, and sweetly feathered to the very edge of the water; gently swelling knolls tufted with firs; high, abrupt, and overhanging rocks clothed with verdure and resembling dilapidated ruins; and a pleasing contrast from a view of the mills, the mirror looking appearance of the water here dammed into a small lake, the cheerful habitations of the workpeople, and the smiling industry around. Passing along the valley we come to another establishment of the same nature, and crossing a handsome

* Vide further, Gents'. Mag. Vol. LXXX. p. 120.

some bridge which unites the two counties, ascend a hill, and when at its summit follow a path leading to a white gate on the right, which leads across three fields and to a clump of trees surrounding a small building erected some few years ago by Major Hayman Rooke to preserve a *tesselated Roman pavement*, and to commemorate the scite of an ancient

ROMAN VILLA discovered by that gentleman, and of which an elaborate account may be seen in the eighth vol. of the *Archæologia*. This indefatigable antiquary relates that having seen some small stone cubes about an inch square, which the country people called "fairy pavements," said to be found in the *North field*, where many stones and bricks had at different times been taken up to prepare the fields for cultivation, and to repair the fences; and having discovered these latter to be *Roman bricks*, he was tempted to persevere in his researches, and in May 1786, set three men to work. In digging about a foot below the surface, they came to some walls, and by following these, the major soon discovered seven rooms, which he considered himself justified in considering as an elegant *Villa Urbana*. In removing the earth which was near a foot deep to the floor, it was perceptible that the walls of most of the rooms had been stuccoed and painted, many fragments being found in different places on the floors, which must have fallen from the upper part of the walls. The remaining lower part had the painted stucco perfect in many places. The composition was near two inches thick, made chiefly of lime and sand; on this was laid a very thin body of stucco, painted in stripes of purple, red, yellow, green, and indeed in all the various colours. In the centre room was part of a very elegant mosaic pavement, of red, yellow, white, and grey *tesseræ* about the size of a die. The space between the mosaic pavement, and the walls, was paved with stone cubes about an inch thick; and the major thought it not improbable that this space was intended for the three beds or couches, and that this was the *Triclinium* or Dining room.

The

The other rooms had painted walls, but no tesselated pavements; but ashes, and other appearances of there having been fires, were visible towards the centre of these apartments.

The entrance seemed to have been at the east front, in a narrow inclosed *porticus* with painted walls and a tesselated pavement; and consisted of a passage fifty four feet long, yet only eight in width.

The Major adds in a note, that a *villa* according to Columella, consisted of three parts; *urbana; rustica;* and *fructuaria:* the first of which was that portion of the house set apart for the master's use; the second was for the cattle, and servants that tilled the land and were employed in the more ordinary services of the house; and the last consisted only of repositories for agricultural produce. He thinks, as he attempts to shew by many well executed plans, that he had traced the remains of all those parts; and he even points out, and that with great antiquarian judgement, the *hypocaust* with flues for warming the sitting rooms; also the *sudatorium,* or vapour bath, &c.; and he gives a very accurate description and delineation of them. In a little room also were some bases of pillars, but he adds "I am more inclined to think they were bases of altars, dedicated to local deities, and that this room was the *penetrale* or chapel, which the Romans had in their private houses for the worship of their household gods."

In clearing out the villa, many slates were found with holes in them; in one was a nail; these must have covered the roof. The outhouses, stables, and other appendages of the farm, must have been destroyed long ago, owing to the rock being so near the soil.

Mr. King in treating of this discovery, observes that "we may fairly conclude, both from the nature of the foundation walls, and from the situation and dimensions of the principal apartments, that it could not be, in point either of elegance or convenience, much superior to these habitations discovered at the ancient *Pompeia* in Italy, where we are led to wonder at

the

the same time, both at the profusion of painted walls, and also at the extreme uncomfortableness, and unpleasantness, of the dwellings on which they were bestowed."*

Major Rooke adds that some remains of two sepulchres were also discovered about 100 yards south east of the villa; in which were found many fragments of *paterœ*, and pots of Roman ware, with several articles of household convenience.†

After lamenting the too common destruction of antiquities, the worthy Major congratulated himself that John Knight of Langold, Esq. on whose estate this discovery lies, had expressed his intention of erecting a building over it—that building has been erected, but to very little purpose, for on visiting it in September 1811, the editor of these sheets found the doors broken open, the pavement ruined, and the floor strewed with the cubic pieces, the walls written over with ribaldry, and its only tenants a mare and her foal, who had there taken shelter from the noon tide heat!

A pleasant walk of two miles now brings us to

MANSFIELD WOODHOUSE a very extensive village, containing many good houses, and long the residence of several respectable families. Sir Robert Plumpton, Knt. in the time of Henry the sixth, died possessed of one bovate in this manor called "Wolfhuntland" held by the service of winding a horn, and driving or frightening the wolves in the forest of Sherwood. It is recorded in a forest book written on parchment in 1520, "Be it had in mynd that the town of Mansfield Woodhouse was burned the Saturday next afore the feast of Exaltation of the holy crosse, the year of our Lord M.CCCIIII, and the kirk stepull

* Vide King's Muniments, Vol. II. p. 175.

† Mr. King, who, in his "*Muniments*," is of opinion that the greatest number of our *barrows* are British; says (Vol. I. p. 301.) "In like manner, in the Roman sepulchres discovered near the remains of the ancient Roman villa, near Mansfield Woodhouse, there was nothing like the appearances of the kind of interments of the Britons, nor like a barrow."

stepull with the belles of the same, for the stepull was afore of tymbre worke; and part of the kyrk was burned."

Before this accident happened the church had three aisles, but now has only two. It is 98 feet in length by 32, and the spire steeple is 108 feet high. In the steeple are four bells and a small *saint's bell*, which in Catholic times was rung when the priest came to that part of the Latin service which is translated "holy! holy! Lord God of Sabaoth!" in order that those who staid at home might join with the congregation in the most solemn part of the office. It is dedicated to St. Edmund; and is a neat edifice and kept in very good order.

The *Feast* or wake is held here on Sunday after the tenth of July; and an *Annual Meeting* or fair has lately been established on the first Wednesday after Mansfield cheese fair. The house and land of the late Sir William Boothby, Bart. is now the property of Mrs. Ramsden (or lately so) who resided there; the house was built by the Digby family, and was formerly their residence.

There are several ancient houses in the town, once the abodes of opulence, but now mostly inhabited by various poor families. At one end of the town, (or village more properly speaking) there is a small eminence called *Winnyhill;* on this there are some remains of a Roman exploratory camp, of which the double ditch and vallum are still plainly to be seen on the right hand side of the road going to Warsop.*

This cheerful, social village is not more than half an hour's walk from Mansfield, and is a pleasant excursion after the heaviest rains, for the foot path is paved with flat stones nearly the whole of the way, the greater part of which is on a solid rock; and the scenery on each side is extremely fine. The worthy antiquary of whom we have had occasion so often to speak, Major Hayman Rooke, had a residence about midway between this village and Mansfield. He was F. R. and A. S. S. and died in 1806 "after a long period of useful services to his country,

*Vide further Harrod's History of Mansfield and its vicinity.

country, as a soldier, antiquary, and metereologist. His communications in the Archæologia are very extensive in Vols. 8, 9, 10, and 11."

Sutton in Ashfield to the west of Mansfield, on the Derbyshire borders, is, we believe, the same parish of which the facetious and sentimental *Lawrence Sterne* was vicar. It is a large village, with a church dedicated to St. Mary, erected on a good scale with respect to size, yet actually so unequal to the population that several meeting houses have been built in a great measure to supply the deficiency. Here is a considerable pottery of red ware of a coarse kind, for garden pots, &c. Amongst the old tenures of this place, we find that Jordan de Sutton, holding his lands of the crown, paid fourteen shillings per annum acknowledgement, and besides did homage, suit and service to Mansfield court from three weeks to three weeks, and attendance upon the king's army in Wales, with one man, and horse and habergeon, cap of iron, launce and sword.

Kirkby in Ashfield is a large village, with a spacious and handsome church dedicated to St. Wilford, containing some painted glass, but no monuments of importance.

This manor came from the Stutevilles to the Cavendishes, and it is recorded that Sir Charles Cavendish began to build himself a great house in this lordship on an hill by the forest side near Annesley Woodhouse, where, being assaulted by Sir John Stanhope and his man, as he was viewing the work, he resolved to leave off his building, because some blood had been spilt in the quarrel, which was then very hot between these two families.

"North from Griesley is *Annesley*, an ancient house of the Annesleys, but now of Henry Chaworth, Esq. who is descended of the house of Annesley. There was a castle within Annesley, whereof there is now no monument to be found. In the west part of which lordship was a little abbey of ancient foundation called Felley, which is now the inheritance of Sir Philip Sterling."*

The

* Harl. Col. 368. 53.

NEWSTEAD ABBEY,
Nottinghamshire.

The village is small; and the church is much defaced though formerly ornamented with painted glass, &c.

Annesley Hall and park are close to the church; the residence of John Musters Chaworth, Esq. Near this is also *Whigday*, a seat belonging to another branch of the family.

Felley had a priory dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Nothing now remains of this monastic building, except some small fragments incorporated in a farmer's residence.

Proceeding from Mansfield on the forest road towards Nottingham, we pass through some wild forest scenery with intervening patches of cultivation.

To the left is *Blidworth* pleasantly situated, and having a picturesque sylvan vicinity. In the early part of the last century, the foundation of the church was so much weakened by digging a vault, that great part of the ancient edifice fell down; since which its body has been rebuilt, still preserving the antique tower and chancel. There are some curious old sepulchral stones with the emblems of various trades; and there is one with a date of 1608, and an inscription of the same period; but its last occupant seems to have it only at second hand, as the ornaments and devices of dogs and deer, of bows and arrows, &c. mark it of an earlier origin.

On the forest in this vicinity there is a curious conical rock sixteen feet in diameter at the base; it has been slightly hollowed, and is supposed to have been used as an altar in Druidical times. Keeping again along the Nottingham road, we come to the *Hut*, a small public house on the forest, near which we turn to the right over some rude fields for

NEWSTEAD ABBEY,

The seat of the Right Hon. Lord Byron, and pass through what was once the park, but now all brought into cultivation, and divided into farms. These grounds are still finely diversified with hill and dale, but bare of wood, and presenting a scene rather of desolation than of improvement,

Newstead abbey was founded as a priory of Black canons, about 1170, by Henry the second. At the dissolution its revenues were estimated at 229*l.*; and it was granted to Sir John Byron, at that time lieutenant of Sherwood forest. Sir John immediately fitted up part of the edifice; but the church was suffered to go to decay, though the south aisle was actually incorporated into the dwelling house, and now contains some of the most habitable apartments.

Mr. Young, during its days of splendour, describes it as situated in a vale in the midst of an extensive park finely planted; on one side of the house, a very large winding lake was then making; on the other side, a very fine lake (still in existence) flowed almost up to the house: the banks on one side consisted of fine woods which spread over the edge of a hill down to the water; on the other shore, were scattered groves and a park. On the banks, says Mr. Young, are two castles washed by the water of the lake; they are uncommon, though picturesque; but it seems unfortunate that the cannon should be levelled at the parlour windows. A 20 gun ship, with several yachts and boats lying at anchor, threw an air of most pleasing cheerfulness over the whole scene. The riding up the hill leads to a Gothic building, from whence the view of the lakes, the abbey and its fine arch, the plantations and the park, are seen at once, and form a very noble landscape.

Such once was Newstead Abbey; but some unfortunate family differences between the late lord, and his son the father of the present peer, induced him to sell every thing belonging to the mansion, and not only to suffer every part, both of the house and grounds, to go to decay, but even to dilapidate great part of it until he was stopped by an injunction in chancery.

The front of the abbey church has a most noble and majestic appearance, being built in the form of the west end of a cathedral, adorned with rich carvings and lofty pinnacles.

The castellated stables and offices are still to be seen, as the visitor enters into a sombre deserted court yard in the midst

of which is a curious erection of red stone in the form of an antique cross. In front is the west end of the ancient church; also the venerable front of the mansion with its towers, and battlements, and Gothic windows, and on the right some additional buildings in the castellated style, originally intended for domestic offices, but now in a greater state of ruin than the older parts of the house, yet assimilating well with it, particularly as being overshadowed with the darkening foliage of some lofty elms.

Ascending some steps, a heavy grated door and porch open into the *Great Hall* quite in the antique style; its only ornaments are two pictures of a wolf-dog, and another from Newfoundland, favourites of his lordship; to the latter indeed he once owed his life.

The *Little Drawing Room* contains a few family pictures still interesting from their locality. In this apartment there is a very ancient carved wooden chimney piece in which are introduced four of the old monarchs of this kingdom, Henry the eighth and two of his concubines, and the family arms of Byron in the centre.

The *Gallery* over the cloysters is very antique; and from its windows we see the cloyster court with a basin in the centre used as a stew for fish. 'Tis impossible to contemplate this scene without a recurrence to past times; in fact when we look down on the Gothic arches, or up to the hoary battlements, midst all the sombre silence that reigns around, busy fancy peoples the scene with ideal beings, and the shadows of some small ash trees in the area may readily be mistaken by an enthusiastic imagination for the shade of the passing religious from his cell to the altar.

The *Great Dining Room* is a most noble apartment, presenting a good idea of ancient manners, but now deserted and forlorn.

In passing towards the habitable part of the house, it was impossible not to feel something like an awful regret in passing the chamber of the late Hon. Mrs. Byron, exactly in the same

state as when she breathed her last within it, only a few days preceding; her clothes, her ornaments, were displayed as if she had just retired, alas! retired to return no more!

Our aged *Ciceroni* with great good will expressed a desire to shew his *Lordship's Study*, and with all the respectful familiarity of an old domestic dependant went into the apartment, to request his lord's permission, which was readily and politely granted, though at a moment when a recent domestic loss must have rendered it an unwelcome request, and one indeed which the writer of these sheets would have shunned, had it not been for the friendly and even hospitable attentions of the venerable old man. It was impossible to enter this sweet little apartment without noticing some of the very unusual ornaments for such a place; but as the house itself is literally a mansion of the dead, for the monkish cemetery was in the cloisters, it may account for the noble owner's taste in decorating it with the relics of the dead, instead of the more tasty ornaments of bow pots and flower vases. The other ornaments are some good classic busts, bookcases with a select collection, and a very curious antique crucifix.

A *Small Drawing Room* next to this apartment contains some good modern paintings. A portrait of his Lordship as a Sailor boy; with rocks and beach scenery. Some good Sea pieces. An exquisite Madona. East and west Views of Newstead. Dogs, horses, &c.

We now come to a long range of deserted apartments. In one called *King Edward the third's Room*, on account of that monarch having slept there, there is a very ancient chimney, which, together with the whole fitting up of the venerable apartment, seems to be coeval with the royal visit, and excites a most pleasing enthusiasm in the mind.

Next to this is the *Sounding Gallery*, so called from a very remarkable echo which it possesses.

The *cloysters* exactly resemble those of Westminster Abbey, only on a smaller scale; but possessing, if possible, a more venerable

rable appearance. These were the cloysters of the ancient abbey, and many of its ancient tenants now lie in silent repose under their flagged pavement. There is something particularly sombre in the circumstance of the habitable part of the house not only opening into this scene of departed mortality, but even having it in some measure as a thoroughfare. These cloysters lead into an ancient and extensive crypt under the body of the church, but for many generations used as cellars; here also was the *Singing Room* for the practice of the choristers, now very handsomely fitted up as a bath; the ancient chapel too, long used by the family for the same purpose, is still entire though in ruin, and its ceiling is a very handsome specimen of the Gothic style of springing arches. This chapel was also used as a cemetery, and its light clustered pillars and ancient carved windows add much to the melancholy expression of the scene.

An ancient *Gothic Greenhouse*, with an antique roof, now opens into the *Garden* which was once the burying ground of the church, and in which a large circular vault has lately been dug, with a handsome pedestal of white marble, on one side of which an inscription tells the passing stranger that it contains the body of a Newfoundland dog to whom his lordship once owed his life, and whom his gratitude has placed here. This garden also includes the dilapidated part of the church, and is altogether a very interesting spot.

Near to this is *Papplewick*, a pleasantly situated village, containing extensive cotton mills which give employment to a number of families. The church, or rather chapel, was rebuilt in the Gothic style in 1797, at which time many curious fragments of Saxon sculpture were discovered.

In this vicinity there is a curious hollow rock in the side of a hill, traditionally called "Robin Hood's stable," and Mr. Rooke considers it as likely to have been a retreat of that character, as it contains several passages and doorways cut in the Gothic style, out of the solid rock, with little hollows as if for holding fodder; or perhaps for holding holy water, if this

place like the excavations in Nottingham park, has ever been applied to religious purposes.

PAPPLEWICK HALL, the seat of the right hon. Frederick Montague, is an elegant stone edifice, built in 1787, and finished with great taste and conveniency. The east front presents the principal entrance, which is into a *Vestibule* or hall 26 feet 10 inches by 17 feet 6, in which there is a winding staircase leading to the upper apartments.

The *Drawing Room* is a handsome, elegantly furnished, and well proportioned apartment, being 36 feet by 24. On the right hand is a *Library* very neatly furnished, and arranged, having over the fire place a very fine statuary marble bust of the late Marquis of Rockingham. A *Small Study* adjoins the library. On the left of the hall is the *Dining Room*, a spacious apartment, 25 by 22 feet, and adorned with several family portraits. A cheerful *Breakfast Parlour* adjoins the library; and the Bed Chambers and Dressing Rooms are spacious, and neatly fitted up with every convenience. The situation of this mansion has been very judiciously selected, as it is not only a fine object in itself, but also possesses pleasing and, in some points of view, very extensive prospects. Nature has done much for the grounds in giving them all the variety of undulating swells; and these have been much improved by the hand of taste.

Linby has some ancient monuments of the *Strelleys*; and *Hucknall Torcard* may be noticed as a considerable village forming a long street with the church at one end of it, in the chancel of which there is a mural monument to the memory of Richard Lord Byron, who, together with his seven brothers, bore arms in the royal cause during the civil wars.

Oxton is situated to the east of the Mansfield road, anciently and locally within the forest, yet left out in the great perambulation in the reign of Henry the second; nor did the inhabitants possess any right of common until the reign of Edward the third, when they put in a claim, when it was decreed that as they contributed nothing to the provision of the foresters,

foresters, as the king's deer did not common within the bounds of their town, and as the people had no lands within the limits of the forest, so they could have no right of common; but it was at length allowed them on paying five shillings annual rent.

We know of nothing particularly curious at the present day, only that the botanist may be gratified with the sight of an uncommon species of fern that grows upon the church tower.

Orton Hall is a neat mansion, with a projecting centre, and a handsome pediment. It belongs to the family of Sherbrooke.

Calverton was the birth place of Mr. Lee, the inventor of the stocking loom. Throsby in this place mentions that in 1793 there were two dissenting meeting houses, "one of which has a famous pastor John Roe, who it is said bid defiance to the discipline of the established church, respecting matrimony. Two of his female followers have suffered a long imprisonment in Nottingham jail in consequence. One I believe was his wife in his own way!"

Beskwood was once a royal demesne: until the civil wars it had plenty of deer, but has since been inclosed; and the ancient hall is occupied by agricultural tenants. It contained 3700 acres, and it had not been all thrown into cultivation until about five and thirty years ago when a Mr. Barton from Norfolk brought a whole colony of his county labourers with him, and broke it up according to that mode of husbandry.

Arnold is a newly inclosed lordship, principally belonging to Mr. Cope who resides in a pleasant modern house with handsome plantations, on the verge of the forest, called *Sherwood Lodge*. The village is nearly a mile in length, and is clean, comfortable, and even rural. The stocking manufacture is its staple; here are also cotton and worsted mills, one of which, however, was so large that a tenant could not be found for it, and it is suffered to go to decay.

Hollyhill is in this vicinity: Major Rooke thinks it took its name from the number of holly trees which were once upon it;

and here he traced out the remains of a Roman camp, 417 yards long and 240 in breadth.

A short detour now brings us back to Nottingham; but, before we leave the county, we feel it a pressing duty to return our best thanks for information given, and facilities afforded, during our researches.

To J. Stretton, Esq. of Lenton Priory, and to his brother Mr. G. Stretton of Nottingham, we are indebted for much modern information respecting that town and neighbourhood, as well as for many judicious hints for research in other parts.

In the northern parts of the county we owe much to the Rev. Archdeacon Eyre, and to the venerable Jonathan Acklom of Wiseton Hall, Esq.; and though we were not fortunate enough to find any of the nobility at home at the larger mansions, yet the readiness with which the domestics afforded every information and facility of examination has enabled us, we hope, to throw some novelty into the various descriptions.

To Messrs. Taylor and Ridge, booksellers at Retford and Newark, we are indebted for much local information.

But our best thanks are peculiarly due to the Rev. John Staunton, D. D. of Staunton Hall, not only for many hints respecting that lordship, but also for some very valuable drawings of his venerable mansion for the use of the work.

To the rest of our obliging friends we will leave the kind recollection of favours conferred, and shall now bid them, collectively, *farewel!*

END OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

A LIST

A

LIST

OF THE PRINCIPAL

BOOKS, MAPS, AND PRINTS,

WHICH HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED

Illustrative of the Topography, Antiquities, &c. of the COUNTY OF NOTTINGHAM.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

"THE Antiquities of Nottinghamshire, with maps, prospects, and pourtraitures."* London, 1677, fol. By Dr. Thoroton.

"Thoroton's History of Nottinghamshire. Republished with large additions. By John Throsby, 3 Vols." 4to. 1790.

We understand that Charles Mellish, Esq. of Blyth, F. R. S. had long been occupied in collecting additions for Thoroton's work.

ARMORIAL COLLECTIONS.

Some Arms, Monuments, &c. collected by *E. Ashmole*, 1663, were arranged No. 854 in his library.

TOWN OF NOTTINGHAM.

"Nottinghamia vetus et nova; or the ancient and present State of the Town of Nottingham. By Charles Deering, M. D. Nottingham 1751," 4to.

Previous to the publication of this work, Dr. Deering brought out "A Botanical Catalogue of Plants about Nottingham in 8vo." in 1738.

Castri Nottinghamiensis Descriptio, may be found in a small work published in London in 1629, in 8vo. called "Epigrammaton opusculum duobus libellis distinctum, &c. Authore Huntingdono Plumtre. A. M. Cantab."

In the early part of last century there seems to have been some disagreement about the building of the Gaols, &c.; but as this has long been settled, we think it unnecessary to trouble our readers with a dry recapitulation of the pamphlets on that subject. Some account of them may be found in "Gough's Topographical Anecdotes," and elsewhere.

Plans of Nottingham Castle and Town may be found in "Dering's

* Richard Hall was the draughtsman; Holler the etcher, 1676, and St. Mary's church is supposed to be amongst the last of his works.

ring's History;" and a plan of the Town was again published by John Badder and Thomas Peat in 1744.

NEWARK

has been illustrated by

"The History and Antiquities of the Town of Newark, in the county of Nottingham, (the Sidnaceaster of the Romans,) interspersed with Biographical Sketches. By William Dickinson. Esq." 4to. 1806. This only forms part of an intended General History of the County.

SOUTHWELL

has been illustrated by Dugdale, who at the end of his "History of St. Paul's," published in 1716, has given a History of the Collegiate Church. There are Views of it by Hall and Hollar in Thoroton; N. and W. prospects of it in the Monasticon, Vol. III.; and a South view of the Palace engraved by Buck in 1726.

"A History of the Antiquities of the Town and Church of Southwell. By W. Dickinson Rastall, A. M. Fellow of Jesus College Cambridge," 4to. 1787.

"Antiquities, Historical, Architectural, Chorographical, and Itinerary, in Nottinghamshire and the adjacent Counties. Containing (in that part already published,) the History of Southwell, the (Ad Pontem of the Romans,) with Biographical Sketches, by William Dickinson, Esq."

MANSFIELD.

"The History of Mansfield, and of its Environs in two parts, containing the *Antiquities* and *Present State*. By William Harrod, 4to." 1801.

VIEWS, &c.

Various Views in the County have been engraved by Buck, &c.; but these and so many Maps of Nottinghamshire have been published recently, detached and in the various Atlasses, and are so easily to be met with, that it would be a work of pedantic supererogation to pretend to insert them all; we shall, therefore, close this last with some of the most important articles to be found in the HARLEIAN COLLECTION of

MSS. IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

Nos.		
363.	51.	Southworth's Report of the Repairs of Nottingham Castle in the 15th of Elizabeth.
——.	53.	Part of a brief Description of the County, in the same reign.
886.	3.	Visitation of Notts. 1569, by William Flower, Norroy, king at Arms.

Nas.		
1196.	128.	Nomina liberi Tenentium in Comitatu Nottingham, 1569.
1057.	29.	Alphabet of Arms, in Blazon, of the Nottinghamshire Gentry.
1400.	1.	Visitation of Notts. by Sir Richard St. George, Norroy, king at Arms in 1614, &c.
1555.		Many Genealogical notices of the County, with Arms, &c.
1171.	4, 10, 24.	Many Genealogical Notices.
1394.	81, 85, 88.	Church Notes and Arms in Annesley, Titheby, and Whatton.
1457.	37.	Arms of the Nottinghamshire Gentry.
2043.	63.	Imperfect Notes concerning the Nottinghamshire Baronets, and their behaviour to Charles the
4954.		1st. Placita Forestæ de Sherwood, of 8 Edw. 3. ad tempus Hen. 6.
6593.		Numerous Extracts from old Deeds, with Monumental Inscriptions, &c.
6238.		Short Description of Notts.
6822.	2.	Grants from Henry the 8th to divers Persons.
7020.		List of the Gentlemen and most substantial Freeholders in Notts. with the names of the persons who signed the association.

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TO

THE COUNTY OF NOTTINGHAM.

* * * The MARKET TOWNS are printed in Small Capitals; the *Villages* in Italics.

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ERRATA.

page.	*line.*	
12	10	from bottom, for " Essingham," read " *Effingham*."
23	9	and 10, the final letters want to be supplied.
24	11	dele " as" before " that."
29	4	for " agelooum," read " *ageloeum*."
32	14	from bottom, for " Arnswirch," read " *Arnswitch*."
	10	from bottom, for " object," read " *objects*."
33	2	dele the comma after " Stainwith," and insert it after " closes."
54	1	insert a *t* at the end.
58	8	for " were," read " *was*."
63	6	from bottom " separate the words " forest" and " the."
81	9	from bottom, for " as," read " *so*."
85	9	for " in," read " *on* "
	4	from bottom, separate " age," and " of."
101	last	in " aambition" dele the *a*.
103	3	insert *be* before " called "
147	20	after " cuts" insert a comma.
153	19	for " tires," read " *tiers*."
158	5	from bottom, for " come," read " *coming*."
161	2	from bottom of the note, for " priest," read " *priests*."
175	16	for " with," read " *and*."
177	last	of the note, for " conofund," read " *confound*."
190	16	for " Keyworth," read " *Kegworth*"
218	2	insert a final *s*.
230	4	from bottom, " set it on fire," read " *it* was set on fire."
235	14	for " these," read " *that*."
244	19	for " paying," read " *paving*."
250	15	for " Lambeth," read " *Lambert*."

N. B. In one of the Plates of " Caves," in this county, for " Sneinton," read " *Nottingham Park*."